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Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat on Expectations for Japan Visit

JN0210175989 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Brother Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] president of the state of Palestine, arrived in Tokyo at 1600 yesterday local time and at 0700 Palestine time on an official visit to Japan which will last until 4 October. Before leaving the airport, 'Arafat made the following statement from a car flying the Palestinian flag:

I have the pleasure of visiting this friendly country for the second time. My first visit took place several years ago, and I am now paying this official visit to this friendly country. I am moving from western Asia to eastern Asia, from Palestine to Japan.

This visit comes under important international, local, and Palestinian circumstances, and coincides with the current international accord, which has begun to affect all the major issues in the world, foremost of which are the Middle East issue and the Palestinian cause.

This visit also follows the important initiative launched by our Palestine National Council. I declared this initiative at the UN General Assembly last year. It is the Palestinian peace initiative, which was adopted by the Arab summit conference in Casablanca. As a result, it has become an Arab and Palestinian initiative.

This visit also comes at a time when our Palestinian people's intifadah is approaching its 2d year. Despite the great sacrifices and the heavy losses, our people will continue this intifadah against the Israeli occupation until the Palestinian flag is raised over Jerusalem, the capital of our Palestinian state. I am coming to this friendly country while the UN General Assembly is in session. I am confident that our talks with our Japanese friends and the Japanese officials here will have an important impact and will give momentum to the peace process in the Middle East and in our country, Palestine. This friendly country, Japan, is playing an international role in promoting the peace process in our region in particular and in the world in general. I am coming here with an open mind, carrying the heartfelt greetings of the Palestinian people and our Arab nation to the friendly Japanese people. We take pride in having many friends here. Therefore I am optimistic that this visit will produce important results, not only here in Tokyo, but also in our region, the Middle East. This visit coincides with the UN General Assembly's session. This visit is a message of love and friendship addressed by the Japanese people to the Palestinian people and the United Nations.

PLO's 'Abd-Rabbuh on Mubarak-Bush Talks

NC0110084789 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee member Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh by Ahmad al-Razzaz, member of the Egyptian radio team in New York—date not given]

[Text] [Al-Razzaz] Brother Yasir, you heard President Mubarak's speech before the UN General Assembly. You have followed the president's efforts since his meeting in Cairo with President Yasir 'Arafat and with Yitzhaq Rabin. The tenth point in Cairo's 10-point plan deals with the issue of exchanging land for peace. What do you have to say after hearing the president's speech?

['Abd-Rabbun] President Mubarak's speech before the UN General Assembly answered many questions, particularly about the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue. The president stressed in his speech that this dialogue is preparatory to the international conference for peace in the Middle East and that this dialogue should be based on international resolutions, particularly Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and on recognition of the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights. We believe that such bases and any plan that moves in this direction serve the peace process and restrict all of Israel's maneuvers to destroy the process.

[Al-Razzaz] Then the Palestinian side supports what the president has said on this issue?

['Abd-Rabbuh] We not only support but consider these bases for dialogue, the international conference, and Palestinian representation through the PLO to be principles that are in line with Arab resolutions, particularly the recent Casablanca summit resolutions; with the international community resolutions; and with the PLO policy and the Palestinian peace program.

[Al-Razzaz] What is the starting point: the dialogue or what?

['Abd-Rabbuh] We are ready to start the dialogue. But it is clear that the Israeli side is the party that is rejecting the dialogue and is even using all means to derail this process in order to maintain the fait accompli and make the occupation permanent.

[Al-Razzaz] President Yasir 'Arafat said in Cairo that he is ready to go to the occupied territories as Sam Nujoma did in Namibia. He also said: I can meet anyone. I can talk in the name of the Palestinian people but the Israelis are occupying the land and are preventing us. If a delegation is formed from outside the PLO, could the dialogue still be held?

['Abd-Rabbuh] There are no Palestinians outside the PLO. Anyone who thinks that there could possibly be a single Palestinian outside the PLO framework is deluded. The PLO represents the Palestinian people and the Palestinian representation and rights are linked to each other and are indivisible. President 'Arafat will

most certainly go to the Palestinian homeland after the departure of the last occupying Israeli soldier from our lands and sacred soil.

[Al-Razzaz] Washington is President Mubarak's last stage in his efforts. What would you like President Mubarak and President Bush to focus on during their talks on the Palestinian issue?

['Abd-Rabbuh] We want President Bush to say clearly that the way to achieve peace in the region is recognition of the Palestinian people's inalienable rights: their right to self-determination, independence, and sovereignty over their national soil under the leadership of the PLO—their sole, legitimate representative. This is what could make the United States adopt a pragmatic and balanced policy on the Middle East problem.

[Al-Razzaz] Thank you.

['Abd-Rabbuh] You are welcome.

'Abbas Says Jordan Conveyed Message to U.S.

JN3009112389 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 28 Sep 89 p 29

[By Fathi al-Barqawi]

[Text] Tunis—PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu-Mazin, has disclosed to AL-ANBA' that Jordan has conveyed a message from the PLO to the U.S. Administration. Jordan's Crown Prince Hasan Ibn-Talal conveyed the message during his recent U.S. visit, in which he was accompanied by Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim. Abu-Mazin noted that the message includes two topics. The first topic is related to the call on America to announce its principles, including the U.S. ideas that were previously announced by Washingon on various occasions, such as the implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions No 242 and 338, the political rights of the Palestinian people, the international conference, land in exchange for peace, the security and safety of the regional states, and the end of the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territory.

Mahmud 'Abbas added that these details have been placed within a Palestinian formula. He said: We asked the United States to issue a statement through the Security Council, the five permanent members, or the two superpowers—the USSR and the United States themselves. We also asked for a clarification on the Palestinian people's right to self-determination as an expression of America's good intentions and an actual contribution toward finding a solution to the Palestine question.

The second topic deals with the Palestinian delegation to the dialogue with Israel. He affirmed that the PLO stressed the need for forming a delegation from both inside and outside the occupied territory. This delegation can discuss everything beginning with the elections in the West Bank and Gaza and ending with the comprehensive solution.

The PLO Executive Committee member noted that Jordan has communicated the Palestinian message to the U.S. officials. The topics from the message were discussed and Jordan argued in favor of them.

Asked by AL-ANBA' on the result reached, Mahmud 'Abbas said that the Americans did not give their approval to the contents of the Palestinian paper; however, they promised to further study and discuss its topics. 'Abbas praised Jordan's support for the Palestinian stand, noting that the support of Jordan, Egypt, and other Arab countries for the PLO will make the Americans feel that the Palestinian stand is not isolated from the Arab stand.

Salah Khalaf Says Intifadah Will Achieve Goals

JN0210180389 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Brother Abu-Iyad [Salah Khalaf], member of the Fatah Movement Central Committee, has affirmed that the Palestinian popular intifadah will continue until its goal of establishing an independent Palestinian state is achieved.

In a speech he delivered yesterday on the 4th anniversary of the Zionist aggression against the PLO headquarters in Tunis on October 1985, he said: We promise to continue the intifadah until we establish our state in Palestine. He also warned that a state of despair will overwhelm our Palestinian people if their demands are not met. He added that the palestinian leadership has offered what it can to secure a positive response to our Palestinian people's demand for self-determination and the establishment of an independent state.

PLO Central Council To Meet in Baghdad 15 Oct

JN0210073489 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 2 Oct 89 p 20

[Text] Amman—AL-DUSTUR—His Eminence Shaykh 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, speaker of the Palestine National Council and head of the PLO Central Council, has said that he has decided to call for a Central Council meeting in Baghdad mid-October. [Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic at 1702 GMT on 2 October broadcasts a similar report adding that the council will convene on 15 October.]

Shaykh al-Sa'ih told AL-DUSTUR that Yasir 'Arafat, head of the state of Palestine, will attend the meeting. He said the meeting will focus on means to support the intifadah and will discuss Palestinian, Arab, and international developments concerning the Palestine question.

Hurani on Contacts with Egypt, Israel, U.S.

PM2909131089 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 3 Oct 89 pp 26, 27

[Unattributed interview with PLO Executive Committee member 'Abdallah Hurani in Cairo; date not given]

[Text] [Interviewer] Is Cairo expected to be the venue of a Palestinian-Israeli meeting in the near future?

[Hurani] All I can say is that the Egyptian Government is making good efforts to bring about such a meeting and the PLO has outlined the principles for it. So I cannot say with certainty when and where the meeting would be held. The Israeli side is perhaps complicating the issue for they still reject participation of any Palestinians from outside [the occupied territories] in the dialogue and refuse to discuss any issue other than elections. I would say that, as things stand, nobody can expect a Palestinian-Israeli meeting to materialize.

[Interviewer] Is it true that you have been sent by the PLO to prepare and train the Palestinian delegation for the peace talks?

[Hurani] No, that is not true. I am in Cairo to follow up the Egyptian initiative and the reactions to it. The Palestinian brothers do not need anyone to train and prepare them. They are efficient and know the right way to the settlement of their cause without instructions from anyone.

[Interviewer] We would like to know the real purpose of your repeated visits to Cairo these days.

[Hurani] I have come to Cairo with President Yasir 'Arafat to discuss with the Egyptian leadership the 10-point Egyptian initiative proposed recently by President Mubarak for the settlement of the Palestinian question. The PLO leadership decided that it would be preferable for me to stay in Cairo to follow up the talks and explain the PLO's views, in the event of any request for clarifications regarding the initiative, and to watch out for new developments and trends.

[Interviewer] Is there any likelihood of the PLO's rejecting the Egyptian 10-point initiative?

[Hurani] We of the Executive Committee did not discuss the 10 points as a whole or in detail but we do know that Egypt made that initiative in the quest for a way to settle the issue. Furthermore, we all know that the Egyptian brothers care more about our cause and interests than about Israeli interests. However, the Executive Committee's discussions on this matter focused on how a meeting could take place, on who could form the Palestinian delegation, and on what basis the dialogue would be held.

[Interviewer] If the Egyptian initiative is accepted, who would choose the Palestinian delegation?

[Hurani] The PLO, of course, and no one else. We will allow nobody to interfere in these matters. That is our own affair.

[Interviewer] Would the delegation consist of Palestinians from inside or outside?

[Hurani] The Executive Committee's guidelines are clear and categorical. It emphasized that the Palestinian people cannot be divided and that any dialogue must be conducted by a delegation representing the Palestinians inside and outside chosen by the PLO in confirmation of the unity of the people and of their representation.

[Interviewer] What would the Palestinian delegation discuss?

[Hurani] In the Executive Committee we also agreed that there should be no preconditions as to the subjects to be discussed. It must be an open and comprehensive dialogue covering elections, the 10 points, and the various aspects of the issue, as well as the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

[Interviewer] How true are the reports of unofficial meetings between Executive Committee members and Israeli Government officials on the subject of the Egyptian initiative?

[Hurani] I can confirm that no meetings have been held. Such reports are unfounded. All there is to it is that dialogues take place in the occupied territory between Israeli figures and Palestinian intellectuals on the future and on ways of settling the issue. That is in addition to meetings which took place when certain Palestinian figures inside were summoned by Shamir and his defense minister, Rabin, to seek their views on Shamir's plan and elections in isolation from a comprehensive settlement, but the Palestinian brothers reaffirm the PLO's basic views and accept nothing else. The PLO had prior knowledge of these meetings. We were informed of the details and gave the required instructions when necessary.

[Interviewer] Do Bassam Abu-Sharif's recent statements about visiting Israel represent the view of the PLO leaders, since he is one of the PLO leaders?

[Hurani] First, brother Bassam Abu-Sharif is a member of neither the PLO Executive Committee nor of the PLO Central Council. Second, Bassam Abu-Sharif implements the PLO policies as expressed in the Executive Committee's decisions. Third, Bassam Abu-Sharif is not authorized at all to make such statements, and such statements do not represent the PLO or any part of it. We emphasized this to the world in a statement issued by the PLO. I believe Abu-Sharif has learned the lesson well.

[Interviewer] The U.S.-Palestinian dialogue in Tunis has reached a dead end. May we know why?

[Hurani] The Americans are strange. Whenever they stop one dialogue they soon call for another. In the latest round they did not cut all the cords. They left the door open and I think there will be some dialogue soon.

Uprising Leadership Extends Aid to Farmers

JN2809115489 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 28-29 Sep 89 p 3

[Text] Amman—Palestinian farmers received the support of the united leadership of the intifadah during their olive picking season this year, and Palestinian food products are finding their way to the European table, according to the president of the Farming Cooperative Councils Union in the occupied West Bank, Tahsin al-Faris.

"We called upon the united leadership of the intifadah through local newspapers to decrease violence during the olive season and within a few days, there was a leaflet distributed by the leadership calling on all able men to help farmers pick, store and transport the blessed olives," Al-Faris told the JORDAN TIMES.

The year 1989, according to Al-Faris, was the best olive season in more than 50 years. "We produced 32,000 tons of olive oil, which, in effect, means a national income of JD 40 million from our olive trees alone."

Another farming success story in 1989 is Palestinian produce reaching the European market. "We had a problem in marketing the excess of our produce in the Arab World and abroad, but need is the mother of invention so we created the Farming Cooperative Councils Union," said Al-Faris.

The union brought together 503 farmers' societies which represented 48,000 families; their representatives initiated market research to determine the areas which could absorb Palestinian produce.

"With our limited resources we started establishing assembly stations from which we exported our first trial batch of Palestinian produce to France with the help of the European Community (EC)," Al-Faris said.

He boasted that foreign experts' assessment of the Palestinian produce "was much higher than our expectations. We received $2,000 a ton because of the quality and packing of our produce."

The only sources of funding, outside the initiative of the farmers themselves, was from the Jordanian Cooperative Organization in the form of loans.

Al-Faris maintained that the "cooperatives" had a large role in supporting the intifadah and that they have emerged as "the infrastructure of the intifadah according to American experts who visited us and saw our work."

The cooperatives, according to Al-Faris, have made an effort throughout the intifadah to provide citizens with basic foods and staples.

"For example, a cooperative in Nabulus changed its farming choice on 18,000 dunums from watermelon to staples to fulfill the needs of the citizens of the West Bank," Al-Faris said. This practice was one of the main reasons why the West Bank was not able to provide its eastern counterpart with watermelon this year, he explained.

Al-Faris and four other members of the cooperatives union are currently in Amman to attend a conference of urban development and the economics of self-dependency in the occupied territories in light of the Jordanian and Egyptian experiences.

He said that representatives from the cooperatives were invited to the conference to "portray the correct picture of the land and its development in the occupied territories and define ways to ensure this development in light of the occupation."

According to Al-Faris, the farmers in the occupied territories need support in finding "markets, heavy equipment, experts and transportation and communication facilities."

These demands would help the farmers to strengthen "the infrastructure of the Palestinian urban areas and will support the steadfastness of man over his land."

Asked what the cooperatives expect to achieve during the Amman seminar, Al-Faris said: "We want to include several items in the recommendations of the seminar:

"(A) Considering the cooperatives as the infrastructure of the development plan in the occupied territories since they are the only public organisation capable of carrying this responsibility;
"(B) Supporting the cooperative morally by considering them as the main representatives of the farming and cooperative sector in Arab and foreign organisations.
"(C) Looking for Arab and European markets for the Palestinian excess produce.
"(D) Extending American and European expertise and help in cooperative and farming training."

Algeria

Bendjedid Interviewed on Reform, Maghreb Affairs

LD0210231289 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Report by correspondent Ahmed Ibrahim on interview with President Chadli Bendjedid by Editor in Chief Uthman al-Umayir and Maghreb affairs "specialist" Qusay Salih Darwish of the Saudi daily AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] When he was invited to specify the domain of the political and economic reforms, President Chadli Bendjedid, after a detailed assessment, drew up the various stages of political and economic courses.

In this interview, the president recalled that the Fifth National Liberation Front [FLN] Congress was the starting point of these reforms at the economic level. This is how, according to President Bendjedid in the interview, the independence of the institutions was decided as a basis for deep economic reforms compatible with political reforms, or as the head of state said, the practice of democracy, the real practice of implementing democracy, which means allowing the people to monitor the management of their affairs through their elected deputies and through political parties or societies.

In reply to a question concerning the practice of democracy within the FLN, the head of state pointed out that we cannot ask others to practice democracy if we do not practice it ourselves. The president added that the majority of the strugglers in the FLN believe in democracy, and that that will be among the important points that will be discussed at the coming FLN congress.

In reply to a question concerning the future of the FLN, the president pointed out that the FLN has great potential because of its historic heritage and its participation in national economic development, and because of its numerous achievements. Because of the power of this heritage, the FLN should keep listening to the people. The head of state said that the situation does not bear empty slogans any more.

The FLN today is not alone in the political arena. Anyone who would like to assert himself should do this by choosing the right men who will use their abilities to convince the people that their program is effective.

Concerning Arabization, the head of state pointed out that this issue has been discussed in the program of the head of government. [passage omitted]

On Maghreb relations in general, and Algerian-Moroccan relations in particular, the president stressed the amicable and normal character of these relations. He added that these relations are the result of a continuous and concentrated Algerian effort.

As for the Western Sahara, the president stressed that settlement of the issue is taking place on the basis of international resolutions in particular, and also on the basis of both sides accepting the referendum. The head of state added that we are therefore waiting for the UN secretary general to determine the particulars of this referendum. When the Saharan people are able to determine their destination without any pressure we will respect his wishes whatever they may be. When the problem of the Western Sahara is settled, nothing will obstruct an actual and fraternal Maghreb rapprochement. The president also announced that a summit will be held on this matter at the end of 1989 or the beginning of 1990 in Tunis.

In reply to a question about the Algerian mediation efforts in the Arab arena, especially in Lebanon, President Chadli Bendjedid pointed out that the Lebanese issue is an important problem. However, the Palestinian issue remains the essential problem, and reaching a solution to the Lebanese problem removes a huge burden from the shoulders of the Arab world.

The head of state announced: I take this opportunity to call on all Lebanese, all the currents, sectors, and formations, especially the deputies, to study the proposals of the tripartite committee with a responsible and unifying spirit.

In the end, concerning bilateral Algerian-Saudi relations, the president described them as good, regular, and continuous.

These were the major points of the press interview given by President Chadli Bendjedid to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT.

Foreign Minister Briefs Bendjedid on Lebanon

LD0210205889 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] At the Presidential Palace, President Chadli Bendjedid received Minister of Foreign Affairs Ahmed Sayed Ghazali on his return from Saudi Arabia.

During the meeting, Ghazali briefed the head of state about the work of the foreign ministers at the Arab tripartite committee on Lebanon in al-Ta'if where the Lebanese deputies are meeting to implement the tripartite committee's peace plan.

After the meeting, Ghazali left for Saudi Arabia to continue his mission in al-Ta'if.

After the meeting, Sid Ahmed Ghazali made a statement to the national press saying he presented the president with a report about the current meeting of the Lebanese deputies in al-Ta'if. This is because President Bendjedid is a member of the Arab tripartite supreme committee, which resulted from the proceedings at the Casablanca summit.

Ghazali stressed that the committee, since its formation, has worked toward drawing up an accurate plan aimed at

solving the Lebanese problem. It has also achieved a cease-fire, lifted the siege, and formed a Lebanese security committee in which senior Algerian officers participate.

Ghazali added that the president is following with great interest developments in the Lebanon situation as well as progress at the meetings in al-Ta'if.

People's Assembly Adopts Government Program

LD0110135989 Algiers APS in English 1110 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Text] Algiers, 1/10/89 (APS)—The National People's Assembly adopted Saturday the programme of the government with 281 votes for 3 against and two abstentions, two parliamentarians being absent.

The head of the government Mouloud Hamrouche came Saturday before the assembly to explicate the position of the government before concerns raised by some parliamentarians during the general debate. In a short allocution, Hamrouche said that the assembly gave the proof of its full communion with the people.

This vote, the head of the government also said does not express only adhesion of the National People's Assembly to the government and to its programme of action but a proof of a renewed confidence in the reforms approved by a majority of the Algerian people as well. Hamrouche also admitted that the mission he was entrusted with is heavy but thanks to confidence expressed by the assembly, he will spare no effort to take up, together with the people and with mobilization of all energies, the challenges of the present time. I will be informed about all what will be undertaken in the country and associated with all the decisions about the future of Algeria, Hamrouche also said.

On his part, the National People's Assembly President Rabah Bitat called in a short allocution the government and the people to work in favor of the reestablishment of confidence through dialogue and concertation.

He also precised that ways of ending the crisis, essential element of the programme of the government constitutes our main concern.

Licenses To Hold Demonstrations Abolished

LD0210204289 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] We have learned from sources close to the Interior Ministry that within the framework of implementing the freedom laws, which have been consecrated by the Constitution, the organization of demonstrations, rallies, and other gatherings, is now subject to a simple and specific procedure based on giving prior information to the local authorities aimed at avoiding any damage to persons or property.

This information concerns the organizers, who would have to specify the aim of the coming demonstration as well as its date, time, path, estimated number of participants, and information indicating the participating groups. The organizers should adopt the necessary precautions to avoid any violations of law during the demonstrations.

The aim is to allow every gathering and demonstration to be conducted in an orderly manner and to avoid all harmful excesses. Thus, everyone will participate in fulfilling the rights and freedom of everyone else and in fulfilling the principles of the Constitution. In addition, this will strengthen democracy and the state of law.

By this we say to you that prior license from the administration is no longer required. The organizers of demonstrations and rallies are now shouldering full responsibility.

Social Democratic Party Leader Interviewed

PM2909150789 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 3 Oct 89 p 11

[Interview with Algerian Social Democratic Party leader Cherif Mohamed by Mustafa al-Yahyawi; place, date not given]

[Text] [Al-Yahyawi] What are your party's aims? And what is its general orientation on the Algerian political scene?

[Mohamed] The objective in establishing this party is to bolster democracy on the one hand and to acquaint ourselves with social problems on the other. The party is characterized by its emphasis on the need to unrestrictedly apply true democracy in all aspects of life in the country, especially in the political field. And we, for instance, cannot imagine the establishment of democracy without free elections. We in this party are very realistic, since no political party possesses absolute truth. Our party is not purely socialist, but adopts some aspects of socialism—socialism that is flexible in terms of application, not theory; socialism that is ideological compared with the other Algerian political parties; socialism that studies Algerian society and classifies it within ideal structures and then works to apply them. So when we appraise the Algerian citizens' social conditions, we pay interest to and work to solve their daily problems, including housing, unemployment, transport, and the high cost of living.

[Al-Yahyawi] Does that mean abandoning the socialist system and liberating the economy from state control?

[Mohamed] No. We are ready to apply some practical aspects of economic socialism in the public sector while encouraging the establishment of a private economic sector and supporting individual initiatives. We are also for the establishment of a third sector representing a compromise, namely, the "mixed economy," in which there would be joint investment between government capital and private capital. And since we believe in middle economic solutions, that makes our party a

center party on our country's political scene. Among its qualities are realism and moderation, not only in the political and economic fields, but also in the cultural, intellectual, and education fields. We are anxious to protect the individual's basic liberties without force or compulsion and to stress commitment to Islamic teachings and pure moral conduct.

[Al-Yahyawi] So what is the relationship between you and the National Liberation Front [FLN], especially as some of the leaders participated in the former regime and engaged in political struggle within the front's ranks.

[Mohamed] Many changes have occurred in the front's policy over the past few years. For instance, the economic law, passed in 1982 with a view to backing and encouraging the private sector, faced some difficulties in application. We agree with the ruling FLN on the need to keep control of the public sector as the backbone of economic life. And if we try to list the similarities and dissimilarities between us and the front, we will find that our points of agreement outweigh points of disagreement, at least with regard to the economic program which we intend to pursue.

[Al-Yahyawi] In this case is your party merely an organization or a tendency among other tendencies within the FLN—something wanted by those opposed to political reforms and the existence of independent political parties?

[Mohamed] No. This, as I said, is because we agree with the FLN on the economic aspect only. But at the political level there is total disagreement, because the front wants to remain the party in control of political life in the country. And we say that true democracy means freedom of political work, honest competition for power, free criticism, and differing views. What we are demanding—namely reforms and political and economic changes—is not something radical or something that is bound to change present conditions, but it is relative and can be applied gradually.

[Al-Yahyawi] Would you agree to participate in a government with the FLN?

[Mohamed] We are ready to have a pact with any political party when it is a question of a program agreed upon beforehand for the sake of ruling the country. Besides, there are balances of political power which necessitate particular types of alliances.

[Al-Yahyawi] Any political party is established with the aim of reaching power through a platform whose features and objectives are clear. So what are the most important points of your platform?

[Mohamed] Our platform basically focuses on the economic field, to which we give absolute priority, because we want to start to revive economic life, provided that reforms are radical. And we believe that by encouraging and backing the private sector we will be able to resolve some of the economic and social problems.

[Al-Yahyawi] Does your party look to the West? And how do you visualize your country's foreign relations?

[Mohamed] Our position on that issue is that we urge the establishment of balanced foreign relations between our country and Arab, European, and other countries. And we need the Arab countries and their contribution to cultural life, Arabization, and the various education fields. We also need the Western countries in the economic and trade exchange field. Algeria's foreign relations generally depend on international developments, and its geographical position in the center of the Arab Maghreb prompts it to be a link between the Arab Maghreb and the outside world, both Arab and Western.

Egypt

Mubarak Comments After Talks With Bush

NC0210205489 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1920 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Washington, 2 Oct (MENA)—Following his meeting with U.S. President George Bush today, President Husni Mubarak said that he and President Bush agree that momentum in the search for Middle East peace should continue. He noted that U.S. support for the peace efforts are basic components of this momentum.

Speaking to a crowd of journalists after the 90-minute meeting, President Mubarak stressed that efforts should be redoubled in the next few months to maintain the momentum and achieve peace. The president said he told the U.S. President that the United States must play an active role in the peace process. He emphasized the importance of persuading the parties concerned to initiate a dialogue to pave the way for subsequent steps toward peace.

President Mubarak began the news conference with a statement in which he said: Once again I have had the opportunity to meet with President George Bush. This is our third meeting this year. The frequency and results of such meetings reflect the firmness of our relations and the depth of our friendship. I have always found President Bush a perceptive statesman with sound judgment and a firm grasp of regional and international issues. He is very well informed and knows how to act decisively. Today's talks were held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, and in a spirit of mutual trust.

He added: As for international issues, I expressed to President Bush my full support for recent steps toward disarmament. We hope these steps, and others, will initiate a new era for mankind in the near future. For our part, we are ready to make a significant contribution to the peace process and to world stability.

The president continued: We also discussed a number of African issues, with special emphasis on the debt issue and the critical situation in South Africa. President Bush

expressed his great concern over these issues and was very responsive and understanding.

On the Middle East, President Mubarak said that President Bush is determined to continue playing the active role which enabled the parties concerned to achieve tangible progress in recent months. President Mubarak added: We believe that there is a great opportunity today to make further progress, and we may achieve this by persuading the parties to begin a dialogue without preconditions.

He added: If this dialogue produces positive results, it will pave the way for steps designed to establish a comprehensive settlement.

It would be a great mistake, President Mubarak added, to let this golden opportunity slip away since continuation of the current situation will only harm both parties. Therefore, President Bush and I have agreed to work together closely to maintain the momentum to achieve real progress.

President Mubarak continued: We have reviewed the Lebanese situation and agree that it is necessary to support the Arab tripartite committee's efforts.

On relations between the United States and Egypt, President Mubarak said: President Bush and I expressed satisfaction with the continued expansion of our cooperation in various fields. President Bush reiterated his resolute support for the progress achieved by our development efforts and the economic reform program. President Mubarak noted that U.S. support is essential to the success of these efforts. He said: I take this opportunity to thank the American people for their strong support. They have proved to be the most reliable partners and friends. We will redouble our efforts in coming months to achieve progress in the Middle East peace process. We will work together and coordinate our efforts, and God willing, we will overcome all obstacles.

Following his statement, President Mubarak answered questions from correspondents.

As to when he will meet with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, President Mubarak referred to his recent telephone conversation with Shamir in New York on the occasion of the Jewish new year in the presence of Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens. He said: It was a long conversation during which we discussed what should be done to prepare for such a meeting. The president maintained that he has no objections to a meeting. However, he added: We must achieve something specific or else the meeting will produce negative results and I do not want to complicate matters.

Asked about Palestinian representation to the proposed dialogue, President Mubarak said he would prefer to withhold comment until after the Israeli cabinet discusses this issue. I do not want to anticipate events, he added.

President Mubarak summarized Egypt's current stand by saying that it hopes to facilitate a meeting and dialogue between the two sides. President Mubarak said that he would like to have Palestinians from inside and outside the occupied territories take part in this dialogue because only this would ensure the continuation of the dialogue. He said: Frankly and sincerely, there should be no fears about participation by Palestinians from outside the occupied territories.

Asked if President Bush had supported the 10 points during their meeting today, President Mubarak pointed out that he has not asked anyone to accept or support these points. The Egyptian points aim to clarify the proposals related to the Palestinian elections and to seek explanations on certain matters. President Mubarak concluded: I do not think that the United States differs with me over this.

President Holds Talks With James Baker

NC0310000989 Cairo MENA in Arabic
2230 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Washington, 2 Oct (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak held a round of talks with U.S. Secretary of States James Baker during a working luncheon at the State Department this afternoon. MENA has learned that the 1-hour talks dealt with the Middle East situation and the ongoing efforts to advance the peace process as well as the Egyptian and U.S. roles in the process. President Mubarak and James Baker discussed current African issues and U.S.-Egyptian bilateral relations and the means to promote them.

Following these talks, President Mubarak said: I had a lengthy discussion with Secretary Baker on several African issues in my capacity as the OAU chairman. We also discussed other issues, particularly the Middle East. We touched on Israeli Prime Minister Shamir's initiative and the 10 points which I proposed to Shamir to clarify his initiative.

President Mubarak added: I would like to emphasize that my 10 points do not constitute a new initiative. Instead, they are points which should facilitate the advancement of the proposed initiative. We work to bring the parties concerned to the dialogue table without preconditions. One party can come with Shamir's initiative and the other with the 10 points. They will then be able to advance along the road to peace. I believe this issue will not be solved quickly and the road will be difficult. However, the dialogue is a good start and it will give hope to the area's people that peace is on the horizon.

As to whether he expects quick reaction from the Israelis, President Mubarak said that the problem has existed for over 40 years and no one expects a quick solution. He added: We are doing our best, and I believe that both sides, the Israelis and Palestinians, are looking forward to peace.

Asked what happens should Israel reject the 10 points, President Mubarak said that each individual point need not be approved. The points could be discussed during the dialogue with the aim of finding a way to hold elections. Therefore, we should not assume that the 10 points will be rejected because the whole world approves of them. I believe that the Israeli cabinet will discuss the matter within the next few days.

President Mubarak added: I leave it to the Israeli cabinet to say whatever it wishes on this matter. I will predict nothing. Let's leave it up to them.

Dailies Preview Mubarak, Bush Discussions

NC0210080389 Cairo MENA in Arabic
2223 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Text] Cairo, 1 Oct (MENA)—AL-AKHBAR and AL-JUMHURIYAH stress the importance of the discussions which President Husni Mubarak will hold with U.S. President George Bush in Washington tomorrow. These discussions will take place while there is universal interest in and support for President Mubarak's efforts to establish peace in the Middle East.

In a commentary in its Monday's edition, AL-AKHBAR says: The attention of many is now focused on Washington, where extremely important discussions will take place between Presidents Mubarak and Bush at the White House. The discussions will cover a number of the persistent international issues which require quick handling without delay because they are connected with the fate of peace in many sensitive areas in the world. Foremost of these issues are the Palestinian problem and the tension in the Gulf area, which is caused by the vague Iranian attitude. In addition, there is the problem of the African Continent's debts. This stands in the way of millions and their attaining the essentials of dignified life, as befits mankind in the final years of the 20th century.

AL-AKHBAR adds: The Bush-Mubarak discussions will take place while there is universal interest in the 10 points which the Egyptian president submitted to Israel. These points clarify Egypt's stand in the event it is proposed that elections be held in the occupied Palestinian territory as a prelude to discussions which will pave the way for a comprehensive solution to the Palestinian problem.

Writing under the caption "Washington summit and the peace battle," AL-JUMHURIYAH says in a commentary in its Monday edition: The discussions between Mubarak and Bush in Washington take place in an atmosphere saturated with hope and the determination of the world community to shoulder its responsibilities in order that Mubarak's call for peace may be transformed into a tangible fact which would ensure stability for this vital region in the world.

The paper adds: At a time when the Egyptian peace efforts have received wide-scale international support, even from Israel's main ally the United States, the United Nations, and the Security Council's permanent member states, the entire world awaits the decision which the Israeli Government will make on Thursday regarding Egypt's 10 inquiries about these elections.

In conclusion, AL-JUMHURIYAH asks: Will reason prevail and the peace efforts continue, or will Shamir's government resist once again the international will and the voice of right and continue its intransigence and suppression without anybody's support this time?

Talks 'Highlighted Prominently'

NC0210084689 Cairo MENA in English
0655 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Excerpts] Cairo, 2 Oct (MENA)—The three Cairo Arabic morning dailies highlighted prominently on their front-pages this morning the Washington summit due to take place today between President Husni Mubarak and U.S. President George Bush, amid reports that their talks would not be confined to political issues but would as well include a consideration of economic affairs. [passage omitted]

AL-AHRAM said in its lead that Presidents Mubarak and Bush will review the United States' position with regard to the Palestine problem in the light of recent developments, notably the ten points Egypt recently proposed and the re-affirmation of the United States' position President Bush declared after his meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and previously declared by the United States President during his meeting with President Mubarak in February.

The United States' position as declared by President Bush stresses four basic principles for ending the Arab-Israeli conflict. These are: refusal to accept annexation of the occupied lands, trading land for peace, stopping the building of Israeli settlements in the occupied lands and recognition of the lawful political right of the Palestinian people.

AL-AKHBAR quoted informed sources as saying that the United States Government proposed to Egypt and Israel a new scheme which was a compromise between the viewpoints of the two sides. The U.S. scheme comprises a number of points, the most important of which was appointing an Egyptian-Israeli committee to make preparations for elections in the occupied Palestinian lands and that the nature of the committee's task be agreed on by the Egyptian and Israeli ministers of foreign affairs.

According to the same sources, after the committee completes laying the bases for the elections, Egypt would convey the outcome of the committee's work to the Palestinian side. In the event that the work of the committee faltered, direct Egyptian-Israeli-Palestinian-United States negotiations could begin, in which case the number of Palestinians joining in the negotiations would not exceed three.

Editor Calls on U.S. To Shoulder More of Burden

JN3009174489 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic
29 Sep 89 pp 1, 3

["Calmly Speaking" column by Chief Editor Ibrahim Nafi': "Burdens of Peace"]

[Text] We do not mind opening the U.S.-Egyptian file, which some may think is a new file no more than few scores of years old, when, in fact, it goes far back into history—more than 200 years. It is very important that we open this file to deepen our understanding and vision, especially since we are on the threshold of forming a new world.

The so-called special relationship between Cairo and Washington is not a new one beginning in the mid- to late-1970's. If we go back into history to the time when the American giant was born, we will see that both sides—Egypt and the United States—were interested in establishing political, economic, and cultural relations. We will see that there has always been a U.S. interest in Egypt and an Egyptian interest in the United States. We will also see that relations between the two sides met at times, and crossed at others; and that these relations became parallel and overlapped—positively or negatively—for many different reasons. The Arab-Israeli conflict then erupted and added factors which greatly influenced the relations between the two sides, and which have ended up with finding common ground in the desire to achieve peace, supported by Europe, the Soviet Union, and the Arab nation.

Therefore, we would be right to say there is a special relationship between the two countries. We would also be right in saying we must discuss this relationship and put all our cards on the table for discussion and study. We should do this without embarrassment because it would be correct and healthy and for the benefit of this relationship and for peace, which is the main goal of both sides.

No one can conceive of the absence of a special relationship between a superpower such as the United States, which has interests throughout the world, particularly strategic interests, and Egypt—the oldest state in history—which occupies one of the most important strategic positions in either the old or the modern world.

Because the future is the first concern of the United States and is also our concern in this region, we must say that, through the movement of history in the past few years, certain major roles in the Middle East were changed. The most prominent of these roles are:

First, the role of Israel: Its role in the past was to act as an advance post for the United States against the presence of the Soviet Union in the region and against governments hostile to the United States in the Middle East. This role has ended, or is in the process of ending, under U.S.-Soviet detente and after the Soviet presence in the region became no longer a problem in the eyes of the United States. Also, all governments in the region want to have strong relations with both superpowers.

Israel's former role in the post-cold war era made sense, but does not any longer. Besides, Egypt, in the past had stood against this role, especially at times when the Arab-Israeli conflict reached crisis points. Then the peace process began and common ground developed between the United States and Egypt to work for peace. Egypt took on a fundamental and substantial role to create a wholesome climate favoring overall, fair peace.

It is possible to say that if an area typifies detente between the United States and the USSR it is, unquestionably, the Middle East where Egypt has for the past few years focused its attention on and paved the way for fair peace and stability. And so there now exists a common perception by the Arab states of their political and economic approach to the world, thus opening the door to U.S., Soviet, and European efforts to build a new world. It is impossible to estimate the importance of this state of affairs unless we can imagine what things in the region would have been like if Egypt's intensive peace effort had been absent. It is not an overstatement to say that the Egyptian role and its realistic achievements along the path of peace match the importance the world is giving to the thaw in U.S.-USSR relations. It is an historic event, especially in terms of the progress of Egyptian-American relations.

But how are we to evaluate this important Egyptian role? What are its costs and responsibilities? And who should bear the costs involved?

The least the Egyptian role could achieve, in my opinion, is to avert the outbreak of a new Arab-Israeli war in which modern arms of destruction, including nuclear and chemical weapons, would be deployed. The economic and oil-related consequences render this role all the more important in that it would spare the world destruction and avert a showdown between the USSR and the United states that could conceivably disrupt detente between the superpowers.

I am not talking idly; the spark was ignited and almost caused an explosion on more than one occasion during the past 10 years—so much so that the United States and certain European nations sent forces to the region.

As for the costs and responsibilities as well as which party should foot the bill, these, in my opinion, must be borne by all the parties with a stake in a continuing Egyptian role and the prevention of a new Arab-Israeli war. This is only logical. Egypt has, thus far, paid a heavy share of the exorbitant cost and has paid dearly in terms of the rupture in its relations with its Arab brothers—the price of the political, intellectual, and emotional transition from war as the only route to ending Israeli occupation to the option of peace and negotiations to regain legitimate rights.

Egypt has been overstrained economically by the long estrangement while all Arab funding was withheld. The

Egyptian economy and the standard of living of the Egyptian people have suffered so much that both are still reeling from the effects. But, with its wise and sound political approach, the Egyptian leadership managed to weather the economic hardship until the Arabs eventually closed ranks again.

Here I am entitled to ask the question: How much has the United States paid of the very high price that Egypt has paid?

It may be said that the United States extends aid to Egypt, now that the latter has opted peace. This is true. But let us be frank and say that neither the quantity nor the quality of this aid is sufficient for the material and moral burden that Egypt has been shouldering for the sake of peace. Although Egypt appreciates this U.S. aid, it believes that the United States' attitude toward Egypt with regard to aid is based solely on figures. This attitude does not represent a comprehensive future political vision. The United States, if it wants to adopt a sound view on this issue, must deal with it from the political angle and take into account that helping Egypt solve its economic problems and freeing it of its debts, which have accumulated as a result of spending many times as much, will contribute to achieving the goals and will support Egypt's role in peace. Such a view of the problem will lead to different U.S. language in the dialogue with Egypt on debts and their installments and the legal and mathematical justifications. As a result of this view, the criteria will become political rather than mathematical. This is what the Egyptian people and the Arab peoples expect, especially since the Soviet Union deals with Egypt from the political rather than the mathematical point of view, despite its economic difficulties. The Soviet Union has cancelled some of the debts owed by Egypt and postponed others. It also cancelled or reduced some accumulated interest. The European countries have made similar decisions to exempt poor countries from large debts and they continue to support them.

In light of the material cost of the burden of peace, the relative weight of Egypt and the United States should be taken into consideration. Each should contribute to the bill of peace in proportion to their economic capabilities. The weight of Egypt's role compared with the roles of other countries in the region that receive unconditional aid and assistance should also be taken into account. We hear people in the United States say that aid to these countries is a moral obligation. Why is this aid viewed as a moral obligation and not from the mathematical and legal angle as U.S. aid to Egypt is assessed?

Is not there a U.S. moral obligation toward the constructive Egyptian role and its international dimensions in bringing about peace in the region?

Finally, in order to maintain a special and close relationship between the United States and Egypt in the new world whose features are now being formed, and in order to continue this constructive Egyptian role, it is necessary to open the file and discuss the papers inside without embarrassment and to try to find the new meaning of this relationship in all areas.

We see this as necessary for the relationship, for peace in the region, and for mankind, which is solely concerned with peace, stability, and justice.

Second Installment Published

JN0210183689 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 1 Oct 89 pp 1, 3

[Second Installment of Ibrahim Nafi' article: "Burdens of Peace"]

[Text] A change in the U.S. position on debts is not only an Egyptian but also an international demand, since the debt problem is not just an economic issue to be approached strictly in legal and hard-figure terms, but it also has a political dimension. It is high time the United States had a different outlook on the debts owed to it by Egypt and that it came up with solutions along the lines of the settlement of Venezuela's and Mexico's debt problem. Washington helped in their negotiations with the International Monetary Fund and contributed substantially toward a solution.

It is worthwhile to remind the United States that former President Jimmy Carter gave an oral undertaking to the late President Anwar al-Sadat that Washington will provide Egypt with the same amount of aid and on the same terms as Israel. This commitment is well known and publicized and if it was not documented it was because Carter did not want to encroach upon a congressional prerogative of setting the size and form of aid to each individual country. The fact that the commitment was made by word of mouth does not make it any less morally binding on the United States. The former U.S. president is still alive and may confirm this claim.

Unquestionably, the debt problem and aid have to do with the U.S.-Egyptian partnership in the Middle East peace process. In my first article, I discussed the peace burdens borne by Egypt and the need for the United states to weigh in more visibly in footing the bill that has overstrained Egypt economically. It is high time I touched on the role of the American partner in the peace process.

Opting for peace, Egypt has, more than once, been severely tested. It is now universally accepted that Egypt's adherence to the option of peace is irreversible. Equally, there is a universal conviction that all along, Egypt has argued that the peace it signed with Israel is not nearly sufficient for establishing peace in the region. Right from the start of the peace process, Egypt has held that it does not stand for separate peace with Israel and that peace with Israel must be tied to a resolution of the central Arab question—the Palestinian question—and restitution of legitimate Arab rights. Throughout the past 6 years, President Mubarak's political line has born testimony to these tenets: Egypt has not turned its back on any Arab cause; it has not conceded any Arab rights;

and it willingly suffered much until its Arab brothers became convinced of Cairo's pan-Arab orientation and the soundness of its political line based on logic and legitimacy. And so Egypt and its Arab brothers returned to each other and Egypt's sincere efforts produced such developments in terms of American political action vis-a-vis the Palestinian question as may not be overlooked. An American-Palestinian dialogue was, for the first time, set in motion, with the United States expressing a serious desire that it be continued. These are positive developments, but are not sufficient in themselves, and therefore must be built on and upgraded to more advanced steps. The United States began the dialogue by raising the subjects of terrorism and infiltration into Israel and then the dialogue progressed to more substantive matters. Now we are entitled to demand that the dialogue advance from probing positions to a more practical plane that should help the peace project and pave the way for it.

We all remember the four points declared by U.S. President George Bush in the White House during President Mubarak's previous visit to the United States in February. These constituted positive progress in the U.S. stance on the issue of peace. These four points were:

— Ending occupation.
—The principle of land for peace.
—Acknowledging the Palestinian people's political rights.
—Israel's security.

We do not demand more than U.S. adherence to these points, especially those related to the Palestine question.

In order to achieve this, the United States must use its influence with Israel to push it into accepting the principle of dialogue with the Palestinians without preconditions. This is because the continuation of the Israeli position as it is now will only mean that the United States has abandoned its role as an actual partner in the peace process for an indefinite period of time. Is this what the United States wants?

The hawks in Israel make political bets that the United States will not take a decisive stand to push Israel into holding dialogue with the Palestinians without preconditions to avoid interfering in Israel's internal affairs. But, peace in the Middle East is not an Israeli internal affair and the future of peace and stability in the Middle East cannot remain dependent on the position of the Israeli hawks because this will mean that the situation will continue to deteriorate in the region. Also, this will open the door wide for inflexibility and violence by any of the parties in the region. After all, there is a force calling for peace in Israel, so why does not the U.S. support include it as well?

We want Bush's four points and the new U.S. stands to transform into positive steps and into a reality that can be dealt with and relied upon. This is not difficult or dangerous. On the contrary, it is something required urgently because time is passing by quickly. And, if Israel this time misses the opportunity for starting a dialogue with the Palestinians, then the situation in the region will deteriorate further and a return to square one will be very dangerous, especially after the recent positive stands made by the PLO and after the emergence of more than one Arab partner ready to contribute to holding this dialogue.

In this regard, it should be noted that the Egyptian 10 points made by President Muabrak are in fact queries, and, therefore, they do not need the approval, acceptance, nor rejection of any party. But, both sides must sit at the negotiations table and discuss together the bases for settlement. In this regard, we insist on the four U.S. points. We add to them another vital point—that is to demand a halt to Israeli settlement activities.

Through dialogue, ideas will inevitably develop and progress will be made.

Then there is the other issue in the Arab region, the Lebanese issue. There are many question marks with respect to the U.S. stand on this issue. Over the past years, it became clearly apparent that the United States adopted positions either supporting or appeasing to the Syrians alone with respect to the Lebanese conflict. The U.S. explanation for such a stand was that the geopolitical situation of Lebanon cannot be changed without Syria. From this premise, the United States did not adopt any stand on the issue of the withdrawal of Israel and Syria from Lebanon. Some Lebanese have even explained the closure of the U.S. Embassy in east Beirut as being a green light to Syria to deal its recent big blow in Lebanon. Others interpreted these U.S.stands on Lebanon as seeking to satisfy Syria and Israel in order to protect the hostages and the lives of the U.S. citizens in the region.

We have the right then to ask the United States to adopt a clear stand on the Lebanese issue that will contribute to its settlement and that will make Lebanon regain its independence and its territorial integrity.

These are not wishes but demands dictated by the political state of affairs in the region. The international state of affairs also leans toward a U.S. response to these demands in service of the common objectives of peace and stability in the region.

These are not words we repeat before every Egyptian-U.S. meeting at summit level. These are stands which reflect Egypt's firm political course of action for peace, stability, and justice. We have every right to expect the principal partner in the peace process to translate its intentions into practical stands and effective and positive steps in every field, starting with the alleviation of the debt burden and the enhancement of the Egyptian economic capabilities to enable Egypt to pursue development, the reinvigoration of the peace process and applying pressure on Israel to have it hold a dialogue with the Palestinians, and ending with the adoption of more explicit stands on Lebanon. These are the burdens of peace and the heavy commitments it entails.

Chief Editor on Bush, Shevardnadze UN Speeches

JN3009142089 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 28 Sep 89 p 1

[Article by Chief Editor Sa'id Sunbul from New York: "Price of Agreement"]

[Text] Last Monday morning [25 September], U.S. President George Bush stood before the UN General Assembly in New York and announced that his country is prepared to destroy 98 percent of the chemical weapons it possesses during the next 10 years, provided the Soviet Union does the same.

The following day, USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze stood on the same spot and announced that his country is prepared to destroy all its chemical weapons if the United States will do the same.

Praise be to God Almighty.

Only yesterday, if the United States said: White, then the Soviet Union would vehemently answer: No, black. And, if the Soviets said: Right, then the Americans would reply: No, left.

Today, the picture is different. The two giants were not content with the detente between them in the past few years, so they have moved from the phase of detente to the phase of agreement.

When U.S. President Bush spoke before the UN General Assembly, he talked at length about peace, democracy, human rights, and so forth, in terms which our ears have become accustomed to.

He then talked specifically about certain issues—environmental protection, counter-terrorism, and combatting drugs—and called on the international community to confront these issues since they are the issues of the future.

Observers and analysts waited for the U.S. President to refer to the Middle East and to explain, or even hint at, his concept of how to resolve the region's problems. But, the President did not—he ignored the Middle East.

The next day, Shevardnadze spoke before the UN General Assembly and, in turn, referred to the same issues as President Bush.

Observers and analysts expected Minister Shevardnadze to deal with the situation in the Middle East. But, the man disappointed them all by not touching on the Middle East in any way.

There are very serious and important things going on in the international arena these days.

The two giants were not only content with the detente between them, but they moved ahead into the phase of agreement—a very important and valuable step.

True, detente or agreement between the two giants will reduce tension and remove the threat of confrontation between them which threatens international peace. But it is also true that this detente or agreement may be achieved at the expense of certain countries' issues—particularly those of the Middle East. These issues may be ignored or given a low priority.

The world is turning a new page in international relations these days. We, the Third World countries—particularly the Arab countries, which have common interests—must be aware of what is happening around us. We must recalculate and think about future steps.

We benefited greatly in the past from the contradictions between the United States and Russia. What will we do in the future, now that the two giants have begun to remove these contradictions?

That is the question.

Editor Comments on UN General Assembly Session

JN3009153089 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 28 Sep 89 pp 1, 3

[Article by Chief Editor Mahfuz al-Ansari: "Mubarak at the United Nations: Quite a Special Session"]

[Text] The UN General Assembly session, which President Mubarak is scheduled to address tomorrow is, at the same time, ordinary and quite special.

Here in New York experts like to call it a session of concord, understanding, and without confrontation.

Third world leaders have dubbed it the "aligned" session by virtue of the fact that it is addressing issues usually tackled by major powers rather than those concerning "minor" powers.

It is from this fact that President Mubarak's participation and address derives significance. He will not be speaking in his capacity as the head of state of a key and weighty regional power or as spokesman for Africa or even as a key Third World figure who, experiencing its crises, is striving to free it from a legacy of discrimination and unequal opportunities.

The value of his participation does not arise just from the fact that Mubarak is speaking in more than one capacity but extends beyond that to substance: The language and content of the speech must restore balance to the session and neutrality to the forum as well as keep in mind the global stature of the world organization.

To be more exact: A close scrutiny of the preparations leading to the session in terms of the agenda, debates at the UN committees and institutions, consultations among the permanent members of the Security Council, or the deliberations among all the council members, leaves one with the impression that the major powers, which have been brought closer by detente and close

coordination, have sought to exclude Third World problems. These include conflicts, issues of trade and the price of raw materials and protectionism, debt, the collapse of weak currencies, and the export of money from poor to rich nations rather than the other way around.

Even more important, the major powers have sought to exclude and sideline regional conflicts—never mind the fires raging in these areas and the killings, devastation, and massive emigration.

To cite specific examples, it is well to pause at two cases:

First, A British resolution presented to the UN Security Council—the agency responsible for world peace and security—would have the council decide that "drugs now pose a threat to global peace and security and, therefore, the permanent and non-permanent council members must adopt such measures and means as would neutralize this threat."

It is possible to speculate on the kind of measures the major world powers may adopt on an issue that interests them.

The second example is more comprehensive and is embodied in U.S. President George Bush's address to the UN General Assembly on 25 September. From the forum of the United Nations, where the overwhelming majority is made up of Third World states, President Bush determined the priorities of joint international action in three tasks centering on three issues, namely the environment, terrorism, and drugs. The U.S. President, however, added a fourth problem to the three on which he elaborated in his speech, namely, chemical weapons.

While determining his priorities and selecting the most important issues of the age—from his viewpoint—and making out of them a working program for the entire international community in the near future, Bush calls on the whole world to "work together and as of today" to save the world from itself and from the devastating danger threatening it which is represented by chemical weapons.

Bush advises the United Nations to develop its role and mission from that of maintaining peace to that of making peace. The peace that Bush calls on the United Nations to make lies in reaching an international treaty to ban the use, possession, and manufacture of chemical weapons.

He is happy with the victory of democracy in the world, and we are also happy. He is happy with the defeat of dictatorship, the collapse of ideologies, and the retreat of totalitarianism, and we are too. But, how could these ideas and this call come true? But, how can all the peoples on earth respond to them? How can all the world leaders respond to him, while he has ignored their problems, disregarded their crises, ridiculed their wars, and not even said a single word about them?

The U.S. President calls on the rich and the poor together, one hand and one word. Bush, however, has made a major mistake. It is true that he has come up with good ideas and discussed important issues—chemical weapons, terrorism, drugs, and the environment. He gave them priorities, however, that are different from the concept of those who have severe problems. It is untrue that what applies to the Third World applies to a superpower such as the United States that has its own universal strategy, future calculations, and its plan to rearrange the international state of affairs in the new age. It might be true that there is a common interest among the developing and the advanced states regarding the three or four issues. However, the degree of interest is different. Different due to the circumstances of each side, the degree of development of each side, and the severity of the other problems of each side.

If there are common denominators regarding environment, drugs, terrorism, and chemical weapons, there are undoubtedly common denominators regarding the other issues—regional conflicts, debt, trade, development, investment, technology, and other issues. For the poor—the Third World—these issues have top priority. The United States, however, has neither paid attention to them nor given them any priority.

The difference in priorities regarding the problems between the big powers and the developing states does not mean that international action should be confined to one sort of problems. It also does not mean that we begin with these problems and leave the other problems. What is required is to move in all directions to resolve problems, and that the one world and the joint action for which Bush and others call be in the interest of all sides, taking into consideration all their concerns and priorities. It is not sufficient that the Americans and the Russians agree on major problems such as disarmament, conventional forces, chemical weapons, and even environment, drugs, and terrorism.

It is not enough for them to agree to eliminate tension between them, although this will ease international tension, or to agree on "free air and land travel" to allow each country's diplomats to move freely in the other country.

It is not enough for them to agree to hold a summit conference between Bush and Gorbachev in Moscow next spring and to agree on complete openness without any mistrust or doubt. All this is not enough for the Third World countries.

Therefore, they should agree to solve the major problems: the problems of life and death such as wars, famine, debts, and backwardness to which the developing countries are exposed. Unless they agree to solve these major problems, any agreement between the two superpowers will be an agreement against these countries, their peoples, their causes, and their rights. All the signs "indicate" this kind of agreement.

Plans for a unified Europe are intended to promote European countries' interests and to coordinate their priorities and moves. They are working for one Europe, and not two Europes divided by ideologies, alliances, and different systems. They are also talking about one future for East and West "Europeans."

This is their priority and the focus of their attention and work, although they talk about Third World problems like environment, terrorism, and drugs.

Therefore, the order of priorities, which we will hear from President Mubarak at the United Nations tomorrow, will take a different direction from that in which they are trying to push the current UN General Assembly session. The changing of the order of priorities by Mubarak does not belittle the importance of the previous issues or postpone them. What he means is balance, fairness, and equality in explaining the problems, a balance in interest and an actual linkage between the world's peace and security on one hand and the real crises which threaten it on the other. In President Mubarak's view, we cannot talk about real international cooperation, about a new age of reconciliation and accord, or about a world without tension, war, or the threat of war.

We cannot talk about one world, while evidence indicates the existence of two worlds: A rich, advanced, and capable north and a poor and incapable south. We cannot talk about peace, while the situation in the Middle East, Palestine, and Lebanon costs the lives of many people every day and produces further destruction. There will never be real international cooperation without a serious dialogue between North and South.

We cannot talk about environment and development while we exploit the issue of environment to stop the growth of the developing countries by setting impossible conditions such as the "cleanness" of the tools of development, that is, by refusing to allow the use of contaminated or "contaminating" technology, although these are the advanced world's tools, exports, and products.

Although it is an ordinary session, the UN General Assembly's session is very special in its attempt to impose an international action program in a direction that ignores Third World problems and its pressing problems. The session is very special in its open flattery and the obvious coordination between the two superpowers.

Air Force Commander on Early Warning System

JN0210203089 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 1 Oct 89 p 4

[Interview with Lieutenant General 'Ala'-al-Din Barakat, commander of the Egyptian Air Force, by Faruq al-Shadhili; date, place not given]

[Excerpt] [Al-Shadhili] After introducing the early warning system, does this system lighten the burden off the Air Force and elevate its combat ability?

[Barakat] The early warning system in the E-2-C aircraft lightens both the human and material burden at the same time, because this plane warns from as far away as 300 miles. It can also detect small targets. When we view the 300 miles in terms of time we find that they equal 20 minutes.

Through it, we can also monitor the enemy from a long distance. This plane is very economical despite its price since human and financial efforts are conserved due to the plane's running costs.

[Al-Shadhili] Despite the fact that we own such a system (early warning), why did we not play a role in what was broadcast about launching the Israeli Jericho-2 missile near the Libyan border? In other words, when Israel launched the missile, did the early warning planes we own detect it or not?

[Barakat] These planes could detect this missile if required to do so.

[Al-Shadhili] Isn't the role of these planes to monitor everything that happens in the air?

[Barakat] These planes do not work around the clock because we are in a state of peace now and there is no tension. These planes currently take off on reconnaissance flights during which they monitor everything happening in the air. They are capable of detecting periscopes. But so long as we are at peace, our radar is sufficient. There is no need to use these planes.

[Al-Shadhili] Is it possible that Israeli's launching its missile is a fabricated piece of news to increase tension during the present stage and to flex its military muscles?

[Barakat] That Israel launches a missile is very possible—as possible as our, or Saudi Arabia's, or Iraq's launching a missile.

A missile is no longer an indication of developed technological power, especially under the present circumstances.

[Al-Shadhili] Is there any connection between launching this missile and what was broadcast about the explosion in the Iraqi factory?

[Barakat] I think Israel is proceeding with a certain policy. It always tells the Arabs that it is technologically and militarily developed. It has launched a missile. It is rumored that Israel owns nuclear weapons. As for us Arabs, we have the means to deter missiles. Israel wants to prove that it can launch missiles like the Arabs do. [passage omitted]

Official Announces Increase in Crude Oil Prices

NC0110164189 Cairo MENA in English 1434 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Text] Cairo, Oct 1 (MENA)—Egypt increased its crude oil prices fifty cents a barrel as of today, Deputy Chairman of the Petroleum Authority for Foreign Trade Hamad 'Ayyub said. The prices will be as follows:

Suez	Crude Oil	16.50	U.S. Dollars Per Barrel
Bal'im	"	15.50	"
Badran	"	14.50	"
Gharib	"	14.20	"

Price Increases for Agricultural Produce

NC3009205889 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1906 GMT 30 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Sawhaj, 30 Sep (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has ordered the price of sugarcane to be increased from 38 pounds to 50 pounds per ton. The increase brings the sugarcane price into line with the prices of other crops, such as cotton, wheat, corn, soybeans, and sunflower, all of which have been increased in the course of this year in order to give incentives to Egyptian farmers. This was announced by Dr Yusuf Wali, secretary general of the National Democratic Party, at a rally held in Sawhaj tonight. Attending the rally was Dr Jalal Abu-al-Dhahab, minister of supply and internal trade, and Sawhaj Governor Major General Hasan al-Alfi. [passage omitted]

Prices on Cooking Oil, Some Cheeses Reduced

JN3009164889 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 28 Sep 89 p 6

[By 'Ali al-Mughrabi]

[Excerpt] Dr Jalal al-Dahab, minister of supply and internal trade, has decided to reduce the price of a number of basic foodstuffs sold at branches of the customs consumer companies.

Following the reduction, pure cooking oil will be sold for 180 piasters a bottle instead of 230 piasters. White cheese will be sold at a price ranging between 260 and 360 piasters, while the price of processed cheese produced by Damietta factories will be reduced to 850 piasters. [passage omitted]

'Unfamiliar Dress' Barred From University

JN3009164489 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 28 Sep 89 p 1

[By Karimah 'Abd-al-Razzaq]

[Excerpt] During a meeting held yesterday under University President Ma'mun Salamah, the Council of the Deans of Cairo University Faculties decided to ban students wearing unfamiliar dress from entering the university campus and to check the identity of each male or female student. [passage omitted]

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Allegedly Paying for Bomb Attacks

AU0310084489 Hamburg BILD AM SONNTAG in German 1 Oct 89 pp 12-13

[Reinhold Stimpert report: "Al-Qadhdhafi Pays—Ahmad Blows Up the Jets"]

[Text] At Banghazi University, Libya's head of state Al-Qadhdhafi dramatically spread his arms in front of 250 Muslim clergymen and swore in a hoarse voice: "We will establish an Islamic world commando. We will achieve victory over U.S. imperialism and Zionism!"

The colonel, whom many in the West consider crazy and many in the orient consider as the savior, is already right in the middle of his fantastic war, he secretly leads the terrorist world commando—he has other people shot and has others throw bombs for him. He is the wire puller behind the plane disasters in Lockerbie, Scotland (270 dead on 21 December 1988) and in the Sahara (171 dead on 19 September 1989, about 2 weeks ago). He paid the killer commandos and provided the explosive Semtex-H, which is produced in the CSSR.

According to information gained by BILD AM SONNTAG, this was discovered by Middle East intelligence services this week.

The Bonn Institute for Terrorism Research: "In January 1989, 1 month after the attack on the Pan Am jumbo over Lockerbie, the Western intelligence services still assumed that it was a joint action of Palestinian terrorists and the Irish terrorist organization IRA. In the meantime one thing is certain: The massacre, which was probably caused by a Semtex bomb hidden in a portable Japanese radio, can exclusively be credited to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PLFP-GC)." The chief of this guerrilla unit, which split off from Yasir 'Arafat's more moderate PLO in 1968, is Ahmad Jibril. The group also operates in the FRG. On 27 October 1988 the Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution discovered two of its bases on Sandweg 28 in Frankfurt/Main and in Neuss/Rhine. The apartments were crammed full with automatic rifles, hand grenades, six machine guns with 20 full magazines, plastic explosive, fuses, and panzerfausts of the Soviet type RPG-7. Fourteen members of the General Command were arrested—including one of Jibril's deputies, his chief of operations abroad, Dalkamoni.

Guenter Scheicher, director of the Hesse Land Office for the Protection of the Constitution, already said in March: "Contacts between the PFLP-GC, under Ahmad Jibril, and Libya are likely." Today it is certain that Jibril receives advice and support from the Syrian intelligence service (which, according to Scheicher, has long

been undisputed), but the person paying for his bloody attacks is Al-Qadhdhafi. BILD AM SONNTAG was told by a Middle East intelligence officer: "The money for purchasing and financing the explosives and weapons, plane tickets, hotels, and expenses of the terrorists on site is taken by Al-Qadhdhafi's diplomats in cash and, normally in U.S. dollars, to the PFLP offices in France, Spain, Yugoslavia, and Romania and, if necessary, exchanged there on the black market."

Al-Qadhdhafi himself revealed his motive for ordering the attack on the Pan Am jumbo over Lockerbie during his appearance at Banghazi University on Tuesday: "The United States is responsible for all the dismal conditions in the Islamic world—in particular for the misery and underdevelopment."

The intelligence services have found another, more "understandable" motive for the Libyan desert dictator for blowing up the DC-10 of the French airline UTA on 19 September over the Sahara. The Bonn Institute for Terrorism Research: "We know from Middle East intelligence service circles that this was an act of revenge by Al-Qadhdhafi against the French. In the border war between Libya and its neighbor Chad, Paris helped Hissein Habre (state president of the Chad—the editors) to win against Al-Qadhdhafi." At that time Al-Qadhdhafi wanted to annex desert areas in northern Chad which are supposed to contain uranium—the most important ingredient for the nuclear bomb of which Al-Qadhdhafi has been dreaming for a long time.

The bombs that exploded aboard the Pan Am jumbo over Lockerbie and aboard the DC-10 over the Sahara are the invention of Palestinian Muhamad al-'Umari (nom de guerre Abu Ibrahim). Al-'Umari is an engineer and founded the terrorist group "15 May" in 1979. He was the first to develop an easily moldable explosive that cannot be identified by the X-ray instruments at airports and explodes in planes through self-ignition with the help of an altimeter.

According to findings by the intelligence services, more than 17 international terrorists have meanwhile acquired the skill to build such a bomb—at least three of them are said to be in Al-Qadhdhafi's service. Almost all use the explosive Semtex-H, which was developed in the CSSR. Its peculiar feature is that its surface gives off only very few molecules that are typical of explosives. These molecules are the ones that trigger the instruments for detecting explosives (so-called detectors) or that can be smelled by explosive-sniffing dogs.

One ray of hope: This week the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration presented in New York a new instrument which is also able to detect the most secret plastic explosives. Six of these instruments are to be used at the airports of New York, Miami, Detroit, Washington, London, and Frankfurt by the end of the year. However: It will still be many years before this instrument can be installed at all check-in counters at all airports of the world. One single instrument currently costs about DM1.4 million.

Al-Qadhdhafi Said To Close Polisario Office

PM0310081789 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 3 Oct 89 p 9

[Unattributed report: "Closure of Polisario Office in Libya"]

[Text] AL-MAJALLAH has learned that Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has asked the Polisario Front to recall the director of its Tripoli office.

Observers say that the Libyan-Egyptian rapprochement and the Libyan-Moroccan rapprochement in the framework of the greater Arab Maghreb may result in advanced Libyan steps toward accepting a political solution to the Sahara conflict on the basis of a referendum under UN supervision.

As known, Polisario has three liaison offices in Damascus, Tripoli, and Algiers, whose three governments recognize the so-called Saharan Republic.

Denktas Ends Visit to Libya, Leaves for Vienna

TA2809121389 (Clandestine) Bayrak Radio in Turkish to Cyprus 1130 GMT 28 Sep 89

[Text] President Rauf Denktas has left for Vienna, the Austrian capital, after concluding his contacts in Libya.

In a statement in Banghazi prior to his departure, Denktas said that he is pleased with having met old friends who participated in the meetings on Islamic solidarity, with the results of his contacts, and with having explained the just Turkish Cypriot cause once more to all. He then reiterated his proposal to hold a similar conference in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

After he concludes his contacts in Vienna, Denktas will proceed to Bonn, the FRG capital, and Istanbul before leaving for a meeting with UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar in New York.

Editorial Urges Annexation of Venice to Libya

LD0110151789 Tripoli JANA in English 1149 GMT 1 Oct 89

["The Editor of Local Affairs in JANA Comments on Raising the Possibility of Annexing Venice to Libya"—JANA headline]

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Tomor [October] 1, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The Italian Government's encouragement of holding touristic festivals at the city of Venice in north Italy caused a large scale controversy in the information circles and those interested in the state

of this historical city regarding the extent of its ability to bear the significant number of people attending such festivals.

The Italian newspaper LA REPUBBLICA considered the Italian foreign minister responsible for this phenomenon. It said in an article in this respect that the Italian minister will say one day that the salvation of the city of Venice lies in its annexation to Libya.

The editor of local affairs in JANA commented on that. He said the reference of the Italian newspaper to the possibility of annexing the city of Venice to Libya is a logical and historical course which must exist. For this city has been known, throughout most parts of its history, for its close ties with the Arabs. It [is] not strange however if we revealed that the majority of the current residents of the city are of Arab descent going back in some cases, to the 9th Century when the Arabs took control over the island of Crete setting up a state lasting for 150 years from which they launched their naval attacks on the shores and ports of Byzantium in southern Europe and some of them reached the area of Venice. As a result of ancient commercial ties between [word indistinct] and this are Arab comunities lived and settled in Venice one generation after another and the prevalent use of Arabic terms in the dialect of the residents is an evidence of the close relationship linking them to the Arabs.

Before that Venice was one of the ports of Phoenician Arabs who set up an empire embracing the Mediterranean.

The editor pointed out that the Italian voices which raised the issue of annexing Venice to Libya did not go out of historical objectivity. But as regards the geographic [word indistinct] of this city overseas, from the point of view of Libya, we see today Britain mobilizing all its resources including military power to reinforce its claim of ownership over the Malvinas [Falklands] Islands which the whole Atlantic Ocean separates her from them. Also France is persisting until now on annexing tens of islands to her although whole continents separate France from these islands such as Reunion, Caledonia etc. All that because the inhabitants' origin is from the aforesaid two states. This is the case of Britain in the Malvinas and France overseas.

Mauritania

President Receives Malian Energy Minister

AB2809164289 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 28 Sep 89

[Text] Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state, this morning received Amadou Dem, Malian minister of industry, energy, and water resources, current chairman of the Senegal River Development Organization ministerial council, and special emissary of President Moussa Traore. The audience took place in the presence of Water Supply and Energy Minister Soumare Oumar.

Information Minister Returns From Iraq Visit

AB2809163289 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 28 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Information Minister Mohamed Lemine Ould Ahmed returned to Nouakchott yesterday from Baghdad where he paid an official visit at the invitation of the Iraqi counterpart, Latif Nusayyif Jasim. The Minister told the MAURITANIAN PRESS AGENCY that the visit enabled him to have contact with Iraqi authorities and hold discussions with them on cooperation between Mauritania and Iraq. He added that he had the honor to be received by Izzat Ibrahim, vice president of the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council, with whom he reviewed the excellent relations between the two countries and ways and means of further strengthening them.

The minister also said that his visit to Iraq enabled him to discuss with his counterpart, Latif Nusayyif Jasim, issues of cooperation in the field of information. These discussions, he said, related to a cooperation agreement on information, comprising various aspects. The discussions with his Iraqi counterpart took place in an atmosphere of brotherhood aimed at reinforcing cooperation. [passage omitted]

Romanian Ministeri ' Delegation Arrives 27 Sep

AB2809171489 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 28 Sep 89

[Text] A delegation from the Socialist Republic of Romania, led by the director of the Africa Department at the Foreign Ministry, arrived yesterday evening in Nouakchott. In a statement to the MAURITANIAN PRESS AGENCY, the leader of the delegation said the purpose of the delegation's visit was to review all fields of Mauritanian-Romanian cooperation before searching for ways to improve them.

Saudis Donate Tankers, Dates to Returnees

AB2909062189 Paris AFP in French 1804 GMT 28 Sep 89

[Text] Nouakchott, 28 Sep (AFP)—Saudi Arabia today donated five tankers and 951 tonnes of dates to Mauritania to support its efforts in favor of Mauritanian nationals expelled from Senegal. This is the second time the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has given emergency aid to Mauritania since the beginning of the Senegal-Mauritania dispute. Jeddah had previously sent to Nouakchott drugs, food items, and clothing loaded on board eight aircraft for the use of the returnees.

Official Says Crops Threatened by Insects

AB3009221089 Paris AFP in English 1117 GMT 30 Sep 89

[Text] Nouakchott, Sept 30 (AFP)—Crops across most of southern Mauritania are seriously endangered by an invasion of locusts and grasshoppers, according to the head of the National Crop Protection Service, Kalidou Sarra. Mr. Sarra stated Friday that the insects had invaded some two million hectares (five million acres) in the south, while migrating locusts had also spread over 2,000 hectares (5,000 acres) in the north and west.

Calling for urgent action, Mr. Sarra put the insect population density at 70 per square metre (yard), with 200 larvae over the same area. The situation could worsen following recent rains.

The planes from the French Ecoforce organization had already begun spraying, but had treated only 30,000 hectares (24,000 acres) of crops, Mr Sarre said, adding that 604 tonnes of insecticide powder had been distributed and mobile teams were moving in to help peasant farmers.

The European Community (EEC) and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) are helping Mauritania with longer-term plans to establish permanent insecticide depots.

Sudan

Al-Bashir Extends Cease-Fire for Further Month

NC3009212789 Paris AFP in English 2119 GMT 30 Sep 89

[Text] Khartoum, Sept 30 (AFP)—Sudanese junta leader General 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir announced a month-long extension to the ceasefire in war-torn southern Sudan, in a speech here Saturday. The leader of the junta said the ceasefire was "still necessary to favor talks with the SPLA", the Sudan People's Liberation Army, which has been battling government troops since 1983 to free mainly Christian and animist south Sudan from domination by the Islamic north.

A de facto ceasefire has been in effect—and generally respected—since last May to allow United Nations-spnsored relief organizations to deliver food and supplies to the region, where at least a quarter of a million people died last year from hunger and shortages. The first formal ceasefire was adopted July 5, and will come up for renewal at the start of each month.

General al-Bashir, who was addressing the 104-member conference for national dialogue, also said his government was preparing a conference on the reconstruction of southern Sudan. He said work would start "as soon as an accord is signed". He conceded that the peace process would be "hard and long" and urged the conference, which is to draw up proposals for a new political system, to show "flexibility" to leave him some negotiating room in talks with the SPLA rebels.

Various sources have said the conference was learning towards a federal system inwhich each region would be free to designate its own laws. This would theoretically free the south from Islamic law, or shari'ah, imposed by the north. The SPLA so far has opposed this, charging that it would lead to partition of the country.

Talks Planned for October

EA2909211689 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Sep 89

[Text] Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan 'Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the National Salvation Revolution Command Council, has declared that a new round of negotiations will be held with the rebel movement in October. In a statement published by AL-QUWWAT AL- MUSALLAHAH today, Lt Gen al-Bashir said this round would come immediately after the end of the national dialogue conference about peace issues, which is currently meeting in Khartoum.

His excellency announced that the government would extend the cease-fire for another month. This would be in keeping with the revolution's earnest efforts to achieve peace and the continuation of negotiations between the two sides.

The Revolution Command Council chairman said that committees of the national dialogue conference would make tours inside and outside Sudan to explain the results of the conference.

Al-Bashir Sets Up Revolutionary Tribunals

EA3009102789 Omdurman Domestic Service in English 2005 GMT 28 Sep 89

[Text] The RCC [Revolutionary Command Council] chairman, Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir and the prime minister [as heard] issued a resolution on the revolution security tribunals law for 1989. The new law deleted the law on the formation of a special tribunal for 1989 but retained the status regulations and procedures thereon. The law calls for the formation of five tribunals in the regions and the national capital. The law spells out the procedures and responsibilities of the tribunals and the high appeals court. All sentences on major cases or capital punishment are subject to approval by the court of appeals and the head of state. The law allows the accused the right to appeal within a 7-day period. It further outlines the cases and crimes which call for prosecution in the tribunals.

Agriculture Minister Meets With Soviet Envoy

EA2809103689 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Sep 89

[Text] Prof Ahmad Ali Qunayf, minister of agriculture and natural resources, received in his office at noon today the

Soviet ambassador to Khartoum. The meeting dealt with bilateral relations in agriculture. The meeting also reviewed the rehabilitation of agricultural factories in Kassala, Babanusah, and Karimah, as well as the Soviet Government's role in this project. It also dealt with cooperation in importing modern Soviet tractors for the country. The meeting touched on agricultural investment in the country and the revolution's recent efforts to lay foundations for and benefit from external aid in this area. The meeting also dealt with animal resources and the rehabilitation of the veterinary laboratory.

Ex-Governor Urges Removal of Islamic Law

AB2909070089 London BBC World Service in English 1709 GMT 28 Sep 89

[From the African news]

[Text] It has emerged in Khartoum that the former governor of Sudan's Equatoria Region, Major General Peter Sirilo, has sharply criticized the policies adopted by successive governments in Sudan. His criticism came in a speech delivered on Saturday [23 September] to the national conference which the new military government has called to find solutions to the country's problems.

A correspondent for the BBC in Khartoum, who has obtained a text of the speech, said Maj Gen Sirilo accused successive governments of using religion as a means of obtaining and holding political power, which they then used to subjugate non-Muslims. Maj Gen Sirilo said the decision to hold a referendum of shari'ah law was likely to frustrate efforts to make peace with rebels from the south, and the law should be removed as it was adopted by decree.

Garang Said Moving Activities to Uganda, Kenya

JN0210085289 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0730 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Doha, 2 Oct (WAKH)—The Qatari newspaper AL-SHARQ today said that John Garang, leader of the rebel movement in southern Sudan, is trying to move his military operations from Ethiopia to Uganda and Kenya after the Ethiopian Government hinted to the Garang forces that it would limit its assistance in terms of territory, headquarters, and movement. Citing sources described as close to the Garang forces, AL-SHARQ said that Garang had asked Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni and Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi, during a recent tour of the two countries, to allow his forces to carry out their activities from across their common southern border. However, the two presidents did not give Garang a categorical answer, but promised to discuss the request.

The Qatari newspaper noted that the Sudanese Government did receive pledges from Ethiopia on the possibility of curbing the military activities of the Garang movement through Sudanese Housing Minister Major General Muhammad al-Hadi Ma'mun, who shuttled back and forth last week.

Ethiopian Pilot Lands MiG-21; Requests Asylum

EA0210194089 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 1630 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] An Ethiopian Air Force pilot has landed a MiG-21 aircraft at Khartoum Airport and asked for political asylum, Sudanese security authorities have revealed. The plane landed in Khartoum last Friday [29 September]. The Sudanese authorities did not give the name and rank of the pilot. They also stated that his request was under consideration. This is the second time Ethiopian Air Force pilots have fled to Sudan since last May's coup attempt.

National Dialogue Official Discusses Committee

EA2709074989 Omdurman Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 Sep 89

[Interview with Joseph Lagu, acting chairman of the steering committee of the National Dialogue for People, by an unidentified announcer; time and place not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] We have the pleasure to meet with Mr Joseph Lagu, the acting chairman of the steering committee of the National Dialogue for Peace. Welcome.

[Lagu] Thank you very much. I feel honored to be with you in Radio Omdurman.

[Announcer] Thank you very much. The first question in this interview, it says: Does the national dialogue conference up to this moment give any indication that it is going to reach its goals?

[Lagu] Oh, yes, this is clear. So far the dialogue has been going on very, very, well, and people have been speaking their minds and presenting their (?petitions) and the indications are that the objectives for which this conference will be convened will be reached.

[Announcer] Mr Lagu, what do you say when [words indistinct] Colonel Garang doesn't represent the whole Sudan?

[Lagu] Definitely, Col Garang doesn't represent the whole Sudan. He is a Sudanese citizen. He has his own viewpoints, and perhaps there are those who are (?looking to) him, and a sizeable Sudanese people, citizens, differ from him when he talks about his goals and objectives of his movement, the SPLA/SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Army/Movement]. I don't share with him his viewpoints when he talks about liberating the Sudan or restructuring the Sudan to making it a socialist state and so forth. So long as I don't share those views with him, the Sudanese citizens [words indistinct]. He therefore doesn't represent the Sudan. He represents himself and (?those with him).

[Announcer] Then, what do you say when you hear someone say the members of this steering committee do not represent the whole Sudan?

[Lagu] That is not also true, because the members of this steering committee are selected as evenly as possible from all over the Sudan and covering people of different walks of life, people of different stages of ages, for example and so forth. It covers the Sudan.

They may say that the representation has not been through some form of election. If they say that, (?yes), the situation was not conducive for that, but the selections have been very, very, very careful, and there are people coming from all over the Sudan and it covers the Sudan.

[Announcer] Mr Joseph Lagu, acting chairman of the steering committee, if that conference reached its goals or aims, are we going to lean on some external parts or powers to achieve the convention or the agreement reached?

[Lagu] The objective behind this is to give the government in the Sudan an [word indistinct] of public opinion from within the Sudan. What this conference is going to come up with is relevant to the Government of the Sudan so that the Government of Sudan could take that assessment of public opinion and upon it build its own stand [words indistinct] further talks with the SPLA/SPLM movement. It is also to do with foreign power. Yes. We have conflict in the country, and this conflict [words indistinct] perhaps conflict, solution of which we might need the assistance of others, the contribution of others to mobilize, reach a lasting peace but [words indistinct] people outside, for us to reach some peace.

[Announcer] Throughout the conference we hear many times the word federation. To make it easier to be understood, what does federation look like. Is our country going to be like the FRG, for example, or the U.S.A., or like Nigeria, for example?

[Lagu] Federation means a union of people or a union of states or a union of subdivisions within a given territory or within a given government, where the people have agreed to live together within that (?wall) but respecting the peculiarities of each unit of that union. [passage omitted]

Similar things are found in the FRG and the Federal Republic of Nigeria and other countries like the Soviet Union or India and so forth. We will remain Sudanese, but within that Sudan there will be smaller governments which cater for the localities that they are responsible for, and joining together in a federal government which is catering for the general welfare and common services of the union.

[Announcer] We asked Mr Lawrence Modi Tombe if we are to find a final resolution for this problem. He answered, yes, if we are serious, and he added: We Sudanese are known to be (?breaking) agreements. The question is, if we reach to an agreement acceptable to our part, how could we secure that agreement from being broken?

[Lagu] We are also to work out a guarantee and an understanding which is equally another agreement as how to guarantee that, [sentence as heard] So the [words indistinct] are violated, and if that violation occurs what is to be done?

[Announcer] In an interview with Mr Mathew Obur, we asked him about the role of external factors of powers in widening the scale of this problem. He said: We kept saying John Garang did this and did that. What have we done to gain those external powers to our side, and here we turn this question to you?

[Lagu] And after all, first we have ask why have we have to turn to these external powers. [sentence as heard] Why did we allow these external powers to find their way into our problems? It is because we have had conflict in our country and, of course, the world is a small place. The moment you are having problems, there are those who would want to fish within troubled waters.

If we didn't allow conflict to occur first in our country, we would not have been involved and we would not have had worries about these external powers. It is us. We have to question ourselves. What do we do so that foreign intervention or foreigners are not given a chance to interfere with our own affairs. The only way is (?we kick) conflict out we try to attain some consensus of how to live peacefully within this country, and if that is the case, no foreign power will come.

For instance, after signing the peace agreement in Addis Ababa, for 10 years we have been peaceful here. Foreign powers didn't interfere with our affairs.

So if you don't want foreigners to interfere with your affairs, keep peaceful and keep harmony; maintain harmony within your country.

[Announcer] Mr Joseph Lagu, the fact John Garang is a communist adopted by Eastern and Western external powers is not peaceful, can you throw some light at this side?

[Lagu] I only read from his manifesto, which appears to be rather Marxist. He has been with me and been one of my students before, and I didn't see that Marxism and communism very clearly defined in him at the time. Well, after launching his movement, for matters of convenience, he could have as well associated himself with communists or pretended to be so, if by that he could gain anything from them. That is what I would say that the type of communist he may be. I still doubt if he is a communist really by conviction.

[Announcer] In two last questions, we are going to ask you about the role of information. In fact, is there a clear plan for the role of information of mass media internally?

[Lagu] Well, a public that is well-informed can be easily maneuvered towards proper understanding of any situation that may arise within the given country where the public live. A public that is not fully, not adequately informed can be misled by rumors, and therefore misinformation or disinformation can cause chaotic situations among the public within that given territory. So, information media, which is properly managed and directed to keep the public well-informed, will maintain order within a country and will maintain the morale of the people and consequently, law and order and stability within that territory could be well-maintained. So it is an important factor—media of information.

[Announcer] Then we want to ask to which extent we are going to be frank and open to the international press or information agencies?

[Lagu] Well, to present to them the news of events and their cause as objectively as possible without any bias, whereby they can assess our objectivity and consequently, due to that, they will always give due regard and significance to whatever news item that will go from us. If we lie or if we do not present good, accurate information, people will not believe in us.

[Announcer] Anything to add?

[Lagu] Well, I have very little to add: perhaps that this conference, as we have said it time and again, its objective is to achieve and [words indistinct].

UN Food Convoys 'Apparently' Attacked by SPLA

EA2909181389 London BBC World Service in English 1615 GMT 29 Sep 89

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] There are some hiccups in the supply of relief aid to the embattled regions of southern Sudan. United Nations convoys are apparently coming under attack again by rebels of the SPLA [Sudan People's Liberation Army]. And it's been revealed that a transport plane has been impounded by the Ugandan Government. The plane, chartered by the World Food Program, was heading from Kenya to southern Sudan when it was seized by the authorities at Kaabong in the far notheast of Uganda. From Kampala, Benjamin Otchang telexed this report.

[Begin studio announcer recording] Aboard the C-119 aircraft were three Kenyans, two Americans, and one Briton. The plane made an emergency landing after fuel problems. The Ugandan Government newspaper, NEW VISION, reported that the six passengers were being interrogated by the authorities. Meanwhile, the United Nations relief operation, Lifeline Sudan, has had 70 relief trucks stranded at Kaya in southern Sudan. This is because the drivers cannot continue the rest of their 46-mile journey due to SPLA attacks without military escort. Some of the Ugandan drivers have abandoned their trucks in Kaya and have alleged that the World Food Program had forbidden off-loading beans, maize, and cooking oil at Kaya. The drivers are also complaining of a shortage of money. The World Food Program contract was supposed to ensure that the supplies were delivered to southern Sudan before the end of August. [end recording]

Western Sahara

Polisario Front, Moroccan Troops Resume Fighting

NC3009213289 Paris AFP in English 2117 GMT 30 Sep 89

[Text] Algiers, Sept 30 (AFP)—Fighting has resumed between the Polisario Front and Moroccan Government troops after a nine-month lull, acording to a Polisario statement published here Saturday. The statement said an attack last Sunday by Saharan guerrillas on a Moroccan post in the Western Sahara left four people dead and four others wounded.

The attack was the first against Moroccan troops in the Western Sahara claimed by the front since it began observing a unilaterally-declard truce last February. In March, however, Polisario Front Secretary-General Mohamed Abdelaziz said the Saharan forces had "resumed military actions on all fronts."

The recent attack was carried out in the Dahlou region of the Western Sahara, the statement said, adding that Polisario forces occupied the post and destroyed an ammunition depot and a 14.5-mm gun.

Polisario forces "are continuing to deal the most intensive blows to the troops of aggression along the entire length of the defensive wall," the statement said. It added that an account of the front's military activities during August and September would be published soon.

Polisario Ambassador Interviewed on Fighting

LD0210144189 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Interview with Brahim Hakim, Saharan Democratic Arab Republic ambassador to Algeria, by correspondent Ibrahim Ziouach; date, place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Ziouach] Your Excellency the ambassador: The attack launched by the forces of the Saharan People's Liberation Army on 24 September against a Moroccan control point in the region of Dahlou is considered by observers as a cancellation of the unilateral truce declared by the Polisario [Popular Front for the Liberation of Saquia el Hamra and Rio de Oro] Front last February, and the question is why?

[Hakim] Concerning the dimensions of any action carried out by the Saharan people in all fields, the dimensions are the liberation of the Saharan country from the Moroccan invasion; thus recovering full sovereignty over the Saharan people's homeland. Obviously, political

initiatives did appear at the end of last year, 1988, and undoubtedly these initiatives created hopes among us of entering the path of a peaceful solution with the other party. You—and the general opinion—have in any case been following up the reply of the king of Morocco, which closed doors against all efforts and actions undertaken by other sides, such as those of the Arab Maghreb leaders, or others, like the UN secretary general, and the OAU chairman. The king of Morocco went back to the language of 1975, same as before. We point here especially to the recent declarations by King Hassan II during his visit to Europe.

[Ziouach] Your Excellency: does this mean that in the absence of a solution through negotiations, we will go back to the previous military situation, and that the Polisario Front will intensify its attacks in the future?

[Hakim] Morocco is still invading the Sahara militarily. It is responsible for all that takes place in this war, and anything that happens during its phases.

Saharan Attacks Against Moroccans Reported

LD0210144589 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] The Saharan Ministry of Information and Culture takes stock of the military activity for the month of August: It speaks of 76 attacks and shelling actions against Moroccan objectives carried out by the Saharan fighters.

Bahrain

Libyan Envoy Arrives With Al-Qadhdhafi Message

JN0110172489 Manama WAKH in English 1635 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Text] Manama, Oct 1 (GNA)—Member of the Libyan Revolution Command Council Al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi and his accompanying delegation arrived here today from Doha on a visit to Bahrain as part of a regional tour.

The Libyan envoy is carrying a message to H.H. the Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa Bin-Salman Al Khalifah from Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Amir Meets Al-Humaydi

JN0210115189 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1010 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Manama, 2 Oct (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, has received a message from Libyan President Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on bilateral relations, current Arab developments, and issues of common interest. The message was conveyed by Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, member of Libya's Revolution Command Council, when he was received by the amir here today.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on issues that concern the Arab nation and on the methods to reinforce Arab solidarity in the service of the common Arab action.

The meeting was attended by His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah, prime minister; His Highness Shaykh Hamad Ibn-'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and commander in chief of the Defense Force; Shaykh Khalid Ibn-'Abdallah Al Khalifah, housing minister and acting foreign minister; and Shaykh Khalifah Ibn-Salman Ibn-Muhammad Al Khalifah, labor and social affairs minister.

The Libyan envoy arrived in Manama yesterday as part of his regional tour during which he will convey similar messages from Col al-Qadhdhafi to the leaders of the region's states.

Amir Receives Nicaraguan Envoy, Ortega Message

JN0110091789 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0800 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Text] Manama, 1 Oct (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah has received a message from Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega concerning the enhancement of Nicaragua's relations with Bahrain in particular and with the Arab world in general. The message also deals with issues of common interest to both countries.

The message was conveyed by Nicaraguan envoy Jorge Halak [name as received] during a meeting he had with the Bahraini amir this morning.

The Nicaraguan envoy said that he briefed His Highness Shaykh 'Isa on the current developments in Central America in the wake of the signing of the Guatemala peace agreement.

Halak added that the Bahraini amir displayed full understanding of the topics mentioned in the Nicaraguan president's message. He went on to say that his visit to Bahrain is part of a tour of the region which has already taken him to Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, and Qatar. Afterward, the Nicaraguan envoy will visit Jordan on a similar mission.

Nicaraguan Envoy Departs

JN0210185289 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1730 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Manama, 2 Oct (WAKH)—Jorge Halak [name as received], envoy of President Daniel Ortega,left Manama today for Athens, concluding a 2-day visit during which he conveyed a message to Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman Ibn-Khalifah from the Nicaraguan leader.

The message was said to concern tightening bilateral relations and Central American developments as well as other issues of mutual interest.

Amir Receives Jordan's Crown Prince 1 Oct

JN0110192089 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Text] Manama, 1 Oct (WAKH)—Amir of Bahrain His Highness Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah has received Jordan's Crown Prince Hasan Ibn-Talal.

Prince Hasan conveyed to him greetings from his brother Jordan's King Husayn Ibn-Talal and his wishes of continued progress and prosperity for Bahrain.

They talked about bilateral ties, the Gulf and other Arab developments.

Amir, Hasan Hold Talks 2 Oct

JN0210112089 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1000 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Manama, 2 Oct (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, this morning received His Highness Prince Hasan, crown prince of Jordan, who is on a visit to Bahrain. The meeting was attended by His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah, prime minister; His Highness Shaykh Hamad Ibn-'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and commander in chief of the Defense Force; Shaykh Khalid Ibn-'Abdallah Al Khalifah, housing minister and

acting foreign minister; Shaykh 'Ali Ibn-Khalifah, assistant Interior Ministry under secretary for immigration and passport affairs; and Amjad al-Majali, Jordan's ambassador to Bahrain.

The talks dealt with bilateral relations and current Gulf, Arab, and international issues in addition to other issues of common interest.

Jordan's crown prince arrived in Manama last night on a visit to Bahrain at the invitation of the Bahraini heir apparent.

Kuwait

Reservations Expressed About OPEC Agreement

JN3009103589 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 28 Sep 89 pp 1, 23

[Excerpt] Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Sabah has expressed Kuwait's reservations about the new OPEC agreement to raise the oil production ceiling by 1 million barrels per day [bpd], affirming that this agreement is not rewarding for his country. In a press conference, the oil minister pointed out that the agreement reached last June by the OPEC states to an OPEC production ceiling of 19.5 million bpd did not give Kuwait its appropriate quota; neither did the new agreement. He said that during the meeting he made a positive proposal to raise the OPEC production ceiling to 21.5 million bpd and give Kuwait its fair quota of 1.25 million bpd. He added that the agreement approved by the ministers yesterday and which led to raising the OPEC production ceiling to 20.5 million bpd did not meet Kuwait's demand. Therefore, he said, his country's delegation noted a reservation about this agreement. The oil minister explained that Kuwait's production level will be determined in Kuwait. He affirmed that Kuwait has maintained its reservations about its quota. He said: We are not committed to anything and we are not legally bound by this agreement. [passage omitted]

Positive Cooperation Welcomed at Al-Ta'if Meeting

LD0110125589 Kuwait KUNA in English 1042 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 1 (KUNA)—Kuwait Sunday welcomed the positive cooperation displayed by representatives of the Lebanese people in their current al-Taif, [word indistinct] meeting, hoping that the constructive step would yield positive results.

Planning minister, acting state minister for cabinet affairs Dr. 'Abd-al-Rahman al-'Awadhi told reporters that the Cabinet hoped that the expected positive results would contribute in realizing aspired-for national Lebanese efforts and restore peace and stability to the sisterly state.

Al-'Awadhi noted that the Cabinet has followed with attention the current al-Taif meetings held at the invitation of the Tripartite Arab Committee on Lebanon to discuss means of ending the tragic situation in the Arab country.

Other political issues and developments on the Arab and international levels were tackled during the weekly meeting held under chairmanship of acting Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, al-Awadhi went on.

The Cabinet endorsed a number of draft laws including one approving the international treaty on nonproliferation of nuclear arms, another on the special protocol for marine pollution resulting from exploring and exploiting the continental shelf and economic, commercial, and technical agreement with Morocco, the minister elaborated.

Another draft law approving the bylaws of the standardization and measurements authority was approved.

They listened to reports by a number of ministers on their activities abroad including one by Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah on recent OPEC'S monitoring committee meeting in Geneva which approved a one million barrel per day increase in the organization's overall production.

Shaykh 'Ali told the cabinet that Kuwait expressed reservations over the quota sharing system, al Awadhi underlined.

Shaykh Sabah briefed the cabinet on the visit of envoy of the Nicaraguan President George Hallaq and his talks here on bilateral relations and the scheduled visit of his President Daniel Ortega to Kuwait this month.

PDRY

Energy Minister, Delegation Depart for Moscow

EA3009215489 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 30 Sep 89

[Text] Brother Salih Abu-Bakr Ibn-Husaynun, member of the Central Committee, deputy premier, and minister of energy and mining, and his delegation left Aden this evening for Moscow. During his visit, which will last several days, he will lead the Yemeni side at the meetings of the permanent committee on economic and technical cooperation between the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY] and the USSR.

Brother ibn Husaynun told ANA that the visit was part of the program of meetings scheduled for the permanent committee on economic and technical cooperation between the PDRY and the friendly USSR. The purpose of the visit was to follow up implementation of the protocol on the seventh session of the joint committee, which was signed in March 1989. He pointed out that he would hold a number of meetings and conversations

with his counterpart, Comrade Chirskov, chairman of the permanent committee on the Soviet side who is also minister of construction of petroleum and gas industry enterprises. The talks would also be attended by the minister of petroleum industry, the minister of geology, and a number of Soviet officials connected with further development of cooperation between our country and the friendly USSR in various fields.

Concluding his statement, Brother ibn Husaynun spoke of his pride and satisfaction at the USSR's sincere support for our country, which had made an effective contribution in different economic fields. He was seen off by Brother Muhammad Abduh Rajih, deputy minister of energy and mining, and Albert Rachkov, candidate memebr of the CPSU Central Committee and Soviet ambassador in Aden.

Political Bureau Holds Regular Meeting 25 Sep

EA0110192789 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 25 Sep 89

[Text] The Political Bureau held a regular session this morning, chaired by Brother Ali Salim al-Bayd, Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee secretary general, to consider a number of items on its agenda. The Political Bureau hailed the 27th anniversary of the glorious 26 September Revolution. It expressed its warm congratulations to our Yemeni people on this occasion.

It once again stressed the desire of the southern part of the homeland to preserve the atmosphere of security and stability and to continue with joint efforts with the leadership of the northern part of the homeland toward achieving Yemeni unity.

The Political Bureau heard the results of the participation of our country's delegation, led by Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, in the ninth Nonaligned Movement summit in Belgrade, from 4 to 7 September 1989, and the meetings he held with leaders of the delegations of a number of friendly and fraternal nations. The Political Bureau heard about the efforts made by our delegation toward the success of the conference and expressed our country's continued support for the Nonaligned Movement and the results of its ninth session.

The Political Bureau heard a report on the results of the visit of our country's delegation, led by Brother Abu Bakr al-'Attas, to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan from 9 to 11 September 1989. It expressed satisfaction at the results of this visit, which will contribute to strengthening and developing the brotherly relations between the two countries. It reaffirmed our country's desire to strengthen and develop relations with all the Arab nations, thus serving the interests and objectives of our Arab people and strengthening Arab solidarity.

The Political Bureau also heard a report on the participation of our delegation in the 20th anniversary of the 10 September Revolution in the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

Air Force, Air Defense Force Mark Anniversary

EA2909215789 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 28 Sep 89

[Excerpt] The Air Force and Air Defense Force in our country are today celebrating their 17th anniversary and the occasion was marked with a speech, a ceremony, and a large tactical exercise, involving various documents [watha'iq] and arms of the Air Force and Air Defense Force. The activities took place in the presence of Brother Colonel Haythan Qasim Tahir, candidate member of the political bureau, first deputy defense minister and Chief of the General Staff.

The speech was made by the brother commander of the Air Force and Air Defense Force. He expressed the pride of the Air Force combatants in their anniversary which coincides with the celebrations of the masses of our Yemeni people marking the 27th anniversary of the glorious September Revolution. He affirmed that the combatants of the Air and Air Defense Forces spared no effort in strengthening the readiness of their arms and raising the level of their military and political alertness in order to protect and defend the homeland's sovereignty and to maintain and bolster those aims and principles for which the martyrs of the Yemeni revolution fell.

He expressed our party's pride and confidence in these forces, whose valiant combatants had demonstrated, at the various acute junctures through which our revolutionary experiment passed, a high class and political consciousness and great valor. He said that the tactical exercise, which demonstrated the skill and qualitative combat performance of various combatants and arms of the forces, was clear proof of the readiness of this high-ranking arm and of the experience of those faithful and tested hands on its trigger. At the end of his speech, he called on the combatants of the forces for more effort in training, construction and study, in order to achieve a continuous rise in the level of the forces' readiness and their permanent alertness. [passage omitted]

United Arab Emirates

Minister Addresses UN General Assemby 2 Oct

JN0310104089 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0530 GMT 3 Oct 89

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Oct (WAKH)—The United Arab Emirates [UAE] has called on the United Nations to exert every possible effort to bring about a new round of negotiations between Iraq and Iran to overcome the obstacles facing peace between them and in the region.

Addressing the UN General Assembly last night, Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, said

that the UAE was at the forefront of states that welcomed the cease-fire between Iraq and Iran, considering it to be the first step toward settling all the problems between the two states with the objective of achieving a just and peaceful settlement based on both sides' legitimate rights.

He stressed that the stalemate in the negotiations and the current state of no-peace no-war are not in the interest of either country and that all parties have an interest in the restoration of peace in the region. For that reason, he said, a new round of negotiations should be held between the two sides to overcome the obstacles and to push the peace process forward.

Rashid 'Abdallah reiterated the UAE's firm stance on the Palestine question and the efforts to settle it. He said that any plan or settlement that does not take into consideration the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to an independent state on their national soil is doomed to failure.

He added that the nature and circumstances of the question make it impossible to deal with except in an international context through an international peace conference to be attended by all the parties concerned, including the PLO, and the UN Security Council permanent member states.

He said that the UAE welcomes the results of the Higher Arab Tripartite Committee's efforts on Lebanon, and the Lebanese parties' acceptance of the committee's plan. He stressed that a final settlement of the civil war in Lebanon must be attained through understanding and dialogue among the Lebanese themselves, and through action that is permeated by the spirit of fraternal tolerance to settle all problems and to prevent interference by foreign countries in Lebanon's domestic problems.

In his speech, he also reviewed international political and economic issues.

Drums Containing Chemicals Discovered Off Coast

JN0210165489 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 1 Oct 89 pp 1, 13

[By AL-BAYAN bureaus]

[Excerpt] Environmental authorities in the United Arab Emirates yesterday revealed that the source of the drums discovered recently off the country's coast is the U.S. company, Union Carbide Corporation, and that they were imported by a local industrial company in al-Shariqah, which, in turn, resold them to an Iranian company.

It was also revealed that the validity of the liquid material contained in the drums, which is called "vinyl acetate monomer", had expired and this pushed the company to dispose of them in the sea in this way. This was discovered from the labels on the drums which state the method of storage and use. [passage omitted]

Yemen Arab Republic

Foreign Minister Leaves for New York 29 Sep

JN2909181089 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Sep 89

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, minister of foreign affairs, and Standing Committee member, left today for New York to attend the 44th session of the UN General Assembly during which he will deliver our country's speech at the beginning of next month. He will also hold a number of meetings and negotiations with his counterparts, the foreign ministers of the fraternal and friendly countries.

Tariq 'Aziz Meets Shevardnadze in New York

JN0210173089 Baghdad INA in English
1650 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] United Nations, Oct. 2, INA—Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz met with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze at the Soviet U.N. mission today to discuss bilateral relations and regional and international issues.

An Iraqi spokesman said the discussions focused on the ongoing efforts to implement Security Council Resolution 598 regarding the Iran-Iraq conflict, the situation in Palestine, the Middle East and Lebanon conflicts, and items on the agenda of this year's session of the U.N. General Assembly.

Mr. 'Aziz, who is in New York for the opening debate of the General Assembly, will address its plenary meeting on Thursday.

'Izzat Ibrahim Receives Romanian Envoy, Message

JN0210120089 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1120 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Oct (INA)—'Izzat Ibrahim, secretary of the Regional Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, today received Romanian Ambassador to Baghdad Mihail Ionel Cetateanu. During the meeting, Ibrahim received a written message addressed to the leadership of the Ba'th Party from the leadership of the Romanian Communist Party. The message concerned relations between the two friendly parties and ways to promote them.

Israeli Violation of Arab Airspace Detailed

JN0210114089 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic
29 Sep 89 p 1

[Text] The IRAQI NEWS AGENCY has learned from an informed source that Israeli enemy air formations violated Syrian airspace at 1527 on 20 September 1989, coming from the occupied Golan Heights. One formation violated Syrian airspace in an area northwest of Damascus. Another Israeli formation was seen south of Damascus heading east. It then turned and entered Jordanian and Saudi airspace across the two countries' common border before turning west in the direction of the occupied territory.

The source has learned that the Syrians did not inform Jordan of the presence or direction of the Israeli air formations over Syrian territory.

Senegalese Culture Minister Leaves Baghdad

JN0310072489 Baghdad INA in Arabic
2120 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 2 Oct (INA)—Senegalese Culture Minister Moustapha Ka and his delegation left Baghdad today after a visit to Iraq lasting several days. [passage omitted]

'Huge' Oil Reserves Confirmed in South

JN0210121089 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic
28 Sep 89 pp 1, 15

[Report by Faruq Hamdi]

[Excerpt] Basra—A responsible source in the South Oil Company has asserted that the al-Najmah Oilfield in southern Iraq constitutes a huge national resource and a vast reserve of oil and other components for our country.

In a statement to AL-JUMHURIYAH's Basra correspondent, the responsible source said Iraqi oil experts have achieved much by drilling Oilwell 172 as well as 13 others in this sector. The source made the statement on the occasion of a special scientific seminar that the South Oil Company is organizing under the slogan "With Science and the Leader's Efforts, Energies Are Being Released To Build Iraq."

The source disclosed that drilling operations in these wells, which range in depth from 4,800 to 5,800 meters, have confirmed the existence of an enormous resource and a large reserve of oil and other components that will greatly help build our national economy.

The responsible source pointed out that oil from al-Najmah Oilfield is of a special quality and meets the best world specifications.

The source said Oilwell 172 produced 3,500 barrels per day during tests. [passage omitted]

Shamir, Bush Confer on Meeting With Mubarak

TA0210172389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] This evening, President Bush contacted Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by telephone. The conversation took place shortly before the President's meeting with President Mubarak in Washington. Our political correspondent Arye Golan reports that Mr Bush noted that he intends to propose that Mr Mubarak meet with Mr Shamir. The prime minister replied that he will gladly meet with the Egyptian president and that he will be ready to discuss any issue, but stressed that the meeting must be held without preconditions.

President Bush promised to raise the proposal to meet in the spirit of Mr Shamir's remarks. Avi Pazner, the prime minister's media adviser, noted that the conversation between the two personages was friendly, and that President Bush again conveyed New Year wishes to the prime minister and the Israeli people.

Official Denies Inviting Peres To Visit Moscow

JN3009181889 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 29 Sep 89 p 3

[Text] Moscow/Amman—The USSR has categorically denied that it has extended an invitation to Israeli Finance Minister Shim'on Peres to visit Moscow.

The deputy chief of the Middle East Countries Department at the Soviet Foreign Ministry has said that such a visit cannot take place at present in its official form.

In a statement to AL-ITTIHAD, Gennadiy Ilichev [name as published] said that the USSR's position on the restoration of diplomatic relations with the Zionist entity is firm and clear to all sides; namely that relations can only be restored within the framework of the peace process and on preparations for holding an international conference on the Middle East crisis. He said: The USSR believes that the PLO is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and therefore, it is considered the only party concerned regarding any future negotiations between the Palestinians and the Israelis.

Earlier, Shim'on Peres had claimed that contacts had begun between the Zionist entity and the USSR to conclude a trade agreement whereby Israel would export fruit and vegetables to Moscow, and in return, the Soviets would be prepared to provide Israeli with commercial aircraft and spare parts.

Citing Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, news reports said this issue was discussed during Peres' meeting with U.S. President George Bush at the end of last week, and that Peres said that he planned to visit Moscow in October.

In another development, Ilichev stressed that the restoration of diplomatic relations between Hungary and the Zionist entity was a Hungarian affair. He said that we are ready to upgrade Palestinian diplomatic representation to the embassy level when there is an opportunity. However, he pointed out that the PLO has not made an official request to the USSR in this regard.

On the other hand, AL-ITTIHAD telephoned the PLO charge d'affaires in Moscow to learn the truth of this story. He replied that the PLO has not actually made such a request. He stressed however, that the PLO has never made such a request to any state that has upgraded diplomatic representation to the embassay level.

Ben-Aharon Discusses U.S. Proposal for Dialogue

TA0310081889 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 3 Oct 89

[Telephone interview with Yosi Ben-Aharon, director general of the Prime Minister's Office, by Gad Becker and Goni Mardor—live]

[Text] [Becker] Could the proposed Israeli-U.S.-Egyptian dialogue, with a possible Israeli veto over the composition of the Palestinian delegation to talks with Israel, break the deadlock in the political process?

[Ben-Aharon] Theoretically yes, because such a tripartite meeting—a kind of preliminary discussion on the implementation of Israel's political initiative—makes sense. Nevertheless, this is not the problem. The problem is what lies ahead of us. Israel has proposed a very specific initiative stipulating that there should be agreement between us and Palestinian representatives on the plan called the political initiative. This would be followed by elections and the implementation of the interim stage, while the question of the permanent status of the territories would be postponed for 3 to 5 years.

What we hear from the Egyptians and the Americans is totally different. First of all, they ignore the issue of the trial period of an interim stage which is very important. Secondly, from everything we hear from the Egyptians and the Americans, whether it has been reported or not, it is now clear to us beyond the shadow of a doubt that what is at stake is the appointment of a Palestinian delegation by the PLO. In other words, what is at stake clearly is negotiations with the PLO.

[Becker] But an Israeli veto over the composition of the delegation could probably solve this problem.

[Ben-Aharon] A veto could solve the problem, partially at least, but the basis should be clear from the outset.

[Mardor] Mr Ben-Aharon, realistically speaking, is it at all possible to compose a delegation without the PLO's endorsement?

[Ben-Aharon] We cannot put ourselves in the shoes of every Arab in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza in terms of *what they think or do. But* we can, under no circumstances whatsoever, agree that the appointment should be made by the PLO, that the delegation members

should be subordinate to the PLO, and that they should introduce two people who belong to the PLO's establishment through the appointment of two representatives from outside the territories. That is what the terrorist organization is striving at.

[Becker] Mr Ben-Aharon, we are trying to discern a turning point or a sign of a turning point in the political process. There is no need to be a great expert or diplomat to discern in yesterday's remarks by Bush, Baker, and Mubarak a very strong emphasis on the fact that Israel's role is very important, that Shamir's initiative is the initiative, and that Mubarak's initiative is not an initiative at all but just a few points. Baker even stated that nobody wants peace more than Israel. There is a clear attempt, both by the United States and Egypt, to give Israel the respect it is due. Does this attest to some new move which would be supported by Israel?

[Ben-Aharon] Unfortunately, we are used to having the world plead with us to give up just a little bit. The problem is not Israeli concessions, but whether our initiative—which featured prominently in the political contacts—is accepted by those who would be our partners to peace. So far, not even one Arab country has reacted to what is a very important element in the initiative. The Arab countries, which actually constitute the backbone of the PLO, have not yet said even one word about being willing to move in the direction of coming to terms with the State of Israel. Egypt has also refused to comment on the issue.

Secondly, they should accept the fact that as far as determining the permanent status of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza, we do not want them to accept our position, but we do not want them to impose theirs either. Let us put off this issue until we see whether the possibility for coexistence and cooperation on the establishment of autonomy between us and the Arabs exists. Later, the Israeli Government in power would enter negotiations on the permanent status.

The Egyptians are clearly opposed to this, and they are concealing their opposition with the help of the 10 points, which stress issues that have no operational significance. They say the elections would be free, that free elections would be guaranteed. That sounds rather odd, if not ironic. Israel is the only country where there are democratic elections; there are no elections in any Arab country.

[Mardor] Mr Ben-Aharon, could this not be the point of departure for a dialogue?

[Ben-Aharon] A point of departure exists. If it turns out—and this is not yet entirely clear—that beyond its 10 points, Egypt agrees to accept our initiative as it is, we could move on. We could convene, let us say, an Egyptian-Israeli forum to at least decide on the initial moves concerning the elections. A delegation of Arabs from *Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza that would be acceptable to* Israel would later be composed, and elections would follow. Well, that is exactly what we are proposing.

[Becker] Is the course you have just described—its two first stages in particular—what Washington is now trying to put together: an Israeli-Egyptian—and perhaps even American—meeting, to be followed by a meeting with an acceptable Palestinian delegation? Is that what is now on the agenda?

[Ben-Aharon] Proposals in this vein were raised during the talks held in Washington. Now that the ministers who conducted the contacts are back in Israel, I suppose the prime minister will submit the issue to the government level, and then a decision will be made on the next step.

[Becker] Yosi Ben-Aharon, thank you and have a nice day.

Ben-Aharon Says Palestinian Meeting 'Possible'

TA0210113889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] The director general of the Prime Minister's Office, Yosi Ben-Aharon, says a meeting between Israeli and Palestinian delegations in Cairo is possible, provided it is aimed at an interim settlement and there is general agreement on the agenda. In an interview with Jack Katzenell, Ben-Aharon said the Mubarak proposal as it stands is aimed at leading Israel into negotiations with the PLO, even if the PLO is not mentioned explicitly in Mubarak's 10 points.

[Begin recording] [Ben-Aharon] It is clear that the intention of the Egyptian proposal is to bring us together with a delegation that is appointed by the PLO, that will be composed of people who are subject to instructions from the PLO, and, in effect, the negotiations will be conducted between Israel and the PLO. We think that if this is the intention, then that proposal is unacceptable to us.

The crux of the Israeli proposal is the interim stage that will last 3 to 5 years. This aspect—that is, the interim stage—is not even mentioned in the Egyptian and American counterproposals. Apparently, both of them want to skip the interim stage or to disregard it and to treat the permanent status issue which is, as you know, a very divisive problem in terms of the relations between the two partners in the coalition.

[Katzenell] From what you say, it seems that the Mubarak message or the Mubarak proposal, or the very idea that he will preside over or convene a meeting between Israeli and Palestinian delegations in Cairo in the foreseeable future is a nonstarter.

[Ben-Aharon] Not necessarily. We are assuming that the Mubarak proposal accepts in principle the Israeli initiative of 14 May. And if this is the case and the question only pertains to the mandate—the basis for the talks between the Israeli delegation and the Palestinian delegation—then, conceivably, we can reach an understanding with Egypt that the basis should be understood. *It should be as I described it a moment ago,* the purpose being democratic elections, self-government for the Palestinians, and an interim stage. The permanent status

stage will be postponed to a later period, when and after the interim stage is implemented. [end recording]

PLO Wants Detainees Included in Delegation

TA0210123889 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 2 Oct 89 pp A1, 2

[Report by Avino'am Bar-Yosef]

[Text] The PLO is demanding that security prisoners and detainees held in Israeli prisons be included in the Palestinian delegation to the talks with Israel in Egypt. It intends to demand the inclusion of figures from the territories who identify with activists of the Palestinian organizations and who have been imprisoned for this reason in order to prove that Israel's demand not to include PLO members in the talks is unrealistic.

The security prisoners mentioned include: Shaykh Mahmud Abu-Tir; Mansur Bahar, a HAMAS [Islamic Resistance Movement] activist; Sam'an Khuri, considered one of the most senior activists of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and an associate of Faysal al-Husayni, who is seen as the leader of Fatah's supporters in the territories; Badran Ja'bar, a supporter of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine; and Hatim 'Abd-al-Qadir, editor-in-chief of AL-FAJR. The above are mentioned in addition to other well-known public figures in the territories such as Faysal al-Husayni, Radwan Abu-'Ayyash, Hanna Sinyurah, Jamil al-Tarifi, Sa'id Kan'an, as well as As'ad al-Saftawi and Gaza Strip attorney Fayiz Abu-Rahmah. The inclusion of security prisoners is meant to meet the demands of the younger generation in the territories, on the one hand, and to give Israel a hard time with international public opinion on the other. Senior Palestinian sources in East Jerusalem noted that after the opening of negotiations in Cairo, the Palestinian side intends to appoint a smaller delegation from a higher level which would launch the negotiations on the interim arrangements at once and skip the phase of elections.

PLO Insists on International Umbrella for Talks

TA0310100289 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 3 Oct 89 p 1

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Menahem Shalev]

[Text] The PLO and Egypt have yet to reach full agreement on the essence of Egyptian President Mubarak's proposal to hold talks in Cairo, and the PLO is insisting that they be held under an international umbrella, sources in Jerusalem said last night.

The PLO demand, which has yet to be formally conveyed to Israel, was raised in the talks between Mubarak and Defence Minister Rabin in Cairo two weeks ago. Mubarak then asked whether Israel would agree that the U.S. and Soviet ambassadors in Cairo serve as observers in the proposed talks. Rabin replied that he would prefer not to have international auspices for the talks.

Prime Minister Shamir has in the past agreed to an international "opening" to talks under the aegis of the superpowers. Likud sources maintain that in their current proposal and in the talks accompanying it, the Egyptians are obfuscating the issue of the international auspices of the talks.

The PLO also insists that the process that is to begin in Cairo lead to the convention of a full-fledged international conference. This position is also not part of the Egyptian proposal to Israel, but was raised—to the surprise of many officials here—in Mubarak's address before the UN General Assembly.

The PLO is also resisting Egyptian pressures to allow talks in Cairo to concentrate on the proposed elections in the territories—and not on the principles of the final status arrangements.

Ministry 'Disappointed' by 'Arafat Visit to Japan

TA0210172989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] The Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem is disappointed with the invitation extended to PLO head Yasir 'Arafat to visit Japan. The Foreign Ministry spokesman in Jerusalem has said that the Japanese Government had announced on various occasions that it would play a positive role in the peace efforts in the Middle East. But the Foreign Ministry spokesman added that 'Arafat's visit to Japan does not contribute to the peace process; rather, it achieves the opposite effect. The Foreign Ministry statement was reported by our correspondent Yo'el Nir.

Security Instructors Forbidden To Enter Peru

TA0210203289 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Israeli antiterror security instructors in Peru have been declared persona non grata and are not being allowed to enter Peru. This was learned by our correspondent from sources close to Israeli companies dealing with the sale of security know-how.

The London OBSERVER, quoting Peruvian Congress members, reported that evidence concerning Israeli involvement in the training of a right-wing terrorist organization in Lima disappeared from the files of a congressional commission probing Israeli involvement in Peru. Our correspondent Hanan 'Azran has more details:

The reports in the London OBSERVER apparently stem from left-wing circles and Peruvian guerrilla groups. The most prominent group is the Shining Path, a guerrilla group aiming to overthrow the regime. These circles contend that Israelis train what they term the right-wing death, or terror, squads. They apparently are referring to the Rodrigo Franco commando units, to which the liquidation of guerrilla members and opponents of the regime is attributed.

Political circles in Jerusalem have said that these claims of Israeli involvement in the training of death squads are groundless.

Israeli companies are involved in military training and in maneuvers in Peru. Israeli experts have set up the Peruvian Army's antiterror squad. One of the squad's founders was Gabi Kohen, a former Israel Police anti-terror unit commander. Gabi Kohen was a partner in the DAT company, which offered similar training and instruction services to additional countries in Latin America and elsewhere in the world.

DAT operated in Peru with the permit of SIBAT, the Defense Ministry defense sales department. One member of the company was a senior Border Police officer, former Border Police Commander Tzvi Bar, who retired from the company after a short period, turning to other enterprises.

One company with diverse operations in Peru was the ISDS owned by Leo Glaser, also an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] elite unit graduate. ISDS had permanent offices in Lima headed by Ran Gazit, who later opened a business of his own elsewhere. The company had Defense Ministry approval for its work in Peru. According to its directors, it trained security guards for civilian businesses only, including the use of firearms and protection measures.

Security Officer Questioned About Klein Escape

TA3009195489 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1802 GMT 30 Sep 89

[Text] Yosi Biran, the security officer at the Israeli Embassy in Bogota who was suspected of being involved in Ya'ir Klein's escape from Colombia is being questioned in Israel. Our correspondent Hanan 'Azran reports that the security officer was recalled to Israel and given a lie detector test yesterday. Our correspondent notes that the security officer arrived in Israel shortly after Yosi Amihud, the Foreign Ministry's spokesman, issued an official statement saying that the questioning and recall of Yosi Biran from Bogota was not being contemplated at all.

As may be recalled, Klein argued that Biran had offered to help him escape from Colombia with forged documents and that Biran had even asked for a few thousand dollars for this service. The lie detector test is meant to confirm Biran's version whereby Klein's remarks are untrue.

This investigation has political significance because of its impact on Israeli-Colombian relations. The Foreign Ministry fears that the Colombian Government might react very badly if it emerged that a security officer at the Israeli Embassy in Bogota or any other Israeli element is capable or in the habit of letting people in and out of Colombia with forged documents. Our correspondent points out that the money aspect is only of marginal importance, considering Biran did not take any money and his version is only countered by that of Klein's.

Defense Ministry Expounds on HAMAS Ruling

TA2909111989 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 28 Sep 89

["Communicated by the Defense Ministry spokesman"—GPO headline]

[Text] 1. The HAMAS is the main Islamic movement in Judaea, Samaria, the Gaza region, and East Jerusalem. Its influence is felt more than that of any other Islamic element in the territories. The HAMAS is the violent arm of the Moslem Brotherhood. It was established as such only after the beginning of the uprising, and began operating in the territories after the outbreak of the uprising (January, 1988) as a new body.

2. In August, 1988, the HAMAS (Harakat Muqawama Al-Islamiya) published "The Covenant of the Islamic Resistance Movement," in which were detailed its positions on different issues. In the covenant, the movement defined itself as "a wing of the Moslem Brotherhood in Palestine," and indeed, its main ideological views expressed in the covenant are identical to those of the Moslem Brotherhood's main stream:

a) The liberation of all the lands of Palestine and their return to Islam, by way of "jihad" (holy war) against the Jewish-Zionists.
b) Resistance to the Zionist enemy and "jihad" are religious obligations incumbent on each and every Moslem.
c) Total opposition to any peace initiative, since it involves renouncing parts of the land of Palestine, which is considered waqf land and is non-negotiable. The only way of reclaiming the lands is "jihad."
d) Confronting the Zionist enemy is the personal religious obligation of each member of the movement.
e) HAMAS calls on the Arab countries to leave the circle of potential negotiations with the State of Israel and considers engagement in any such negotiations to be treachery.
f) HAMAS calls on all Arabic peoples to fear God and prepare themselves for the call of "jihad" until liberation has been achieved.
g) The Islamic Resistance Movement is an army intended to serve any organization or country which adopts Islam as a way of life.
h) Participation in the activities of the uprising in the territories as part of the struggle and as a means for drawing masses to the ranks of the organization, using a publicizing committee and an extensive network of leaflets, booklets and copies of the covenant which would constitute incendiary and leading elements, alongside the network directed by the "Unified Leadership of the Uprising" and with partial and indirect coordination with it.

3. During the uprising, the movement gained momentum, especially in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza

region, and established itself as the dominant Islamic movement. It did so by publicizing, and circulating numbered leaflets in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, similar to those of the unified leadership. The leaflets listed the principles of the movement and its positions on ongoing matters, and gave the population instructions. Strike days decided upon by the movement were enforced on the population by threats and violence.

4. HAMAS leaflets call for the continuation of violent struggle and the organization of disturbances. The leaflets usually do not refer to Israel, but to the "Zionists," the "Jews," often accompanied by the term "Nazis."

5. Sheikh Ahmad Yasin is the prominent leader of the HAMAS. He shapes its views and determines its main modes of operation.

6. According to HAMAS leader, Sheikh Yasin, in an interview with Israel TV's Arabic language service, on 23.9.89, the movement comprises three sections:

a) The "security" branch—Majd—which is a mechanism designed to fight corruption, and that, according to the Sheikh's evidence on Israel television, was responsible for a number of murders in the Gaza Strip.
b) The "military" branch—Mujahedeen—whose task is to resist occupation by means of disturbances and violence.
c) The political branch.

7. HAMAS plays an active role in directing disturbances and in calling for general strikes. It was responsible for extremist incitements in mosques, including open displays against the Israeli authorities, and encouraging the perpetration of terrorist acts. As a result of this, members of the movement were involved in Molotov cocktail throwing, leaflet dissemination, slogan writing, stone throwing, participation in demonstrations and disturbances, forcibly maintaining strikes, and obstructing workers trying to go to work in Israel.

8. At the same time HAMAS engaged in terrorist activity as well. So far, involvement of HAMAS members in the following terrorist attacks is known with certainty, and their involvement in many other attacks has not yet been verified:

a) Two shooting attacks at Israeli targets in which an Israeli civilian was injured. (March, 1988)
b) 13 attacks using explosive devices against the security forces IDF [Israel Defense Forces] outposts, of which six roadside charges were used against IDF patrols in Bayt Hanun and seven in Bureij. (February-August, 1988)
c) Two explosive devices in Nabulus (October, 1988) and Bayt 'Awwa near Hebron. (July, 1989)
d) Throwing of four Molotov cocktails in Bayt 'Awwa (July, 1989) a Nabulus (August, 1988).
e) The murder of at least four local residents on suspicion of the cooperating with Israel or deviating from the principles of Islam, one of them shot to death. The involvement of HAMAS members in additional acts of murder is being investigated.

Pollard Asks Shamir To Plead Case to Bush

TA0310060889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 3 Oct 89

[Text] Last night Anne Pollard asked the prime minister to appeal to President Bush, either openly or privately, in her and her husband's behalf to intercede in their case, because they believe this is in the best interest of both Israel and the United States. Anne Pollard appealed to Mr Shamir through the Voice of Israel:

[Begin Pollard recording in English] Jonathan and I are appealing to Prime Minister Shamir to put an end to the Pollard affair once and for all. This could be accomplished if the prime minister could, either privately or openly and, most importantly, candidly, discuss our case directly with President Bush. With Jon we believe this is in the best interest of both the United States and Israel. [end recording]

Avi Pazner, the prime minister's communications adviser, has said that Mr Shamir has been aware of the suffering of the Pollards for a long time and has been working energetically to help them out of humanitarian considerations.

General Commutes Sentences of 3 Giv'ati Soldiers

TA2909105689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 29 Sep 89

[Text] Major General Matan Vilna'i, commander of the Southern Command, has decided to commute the prison sentences of three Giv'ati Brigade soldiers who were convicted of brutalizing a resident of the Jabalyah refugee camp. In his decision, Maj Gen Vilna'i ordered their release from prison, but condemned their actions. He has ruled that their service in the Giv'ati Brigade be terminated.

Our military affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that the three soldiers have served 3 months of their 9-month prison terms. Our correspondent adds that Maj Gen Vilna'i explained that he came to his decision after considering the situations IDF [Israel Defense Forces] troops occasionally find themselves facing in the Gaza Strip. The shortening of their sentences does not erase their conviction in the court martial.

22 'Most Wanted Men' Arrested in West Bank

TA0210121489 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 2 Oct 89 p 1

[Report by Alex Fishman]

[Text] Over the past month, the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] and the Shin Bet have arrested 22 of "the most wanted men" in the West Bank, considered to be the street leaders of the intifadah. A senior military source described those wanted men arrested as the "department heads of the intifadah's general staff." The arrest of the

22 men, who are part of a list of several dozen, marked the climax of operation "Bi'ur Hametz" [nonkosher food disposal] conducted by the Central Command over the last few weeks. An additional 320 wanted men who appeared on the lists of the IDF and the Shin Bet were arrested during the course of the operation.

2 Gazans Sentenced to 20, 30 Years in Prison

TA0210173389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] The Gaza military court has sentenced two Dayr al-Balah residents convicted of terrorist activities to 30 and 20 years in prison. The two were convicted of preparing and setting off bombs against security forces, and of throwing Molotov cocktails at the Dayr al-Balah post office branch.

Police Uncover 'Terror' Squads in East Jerusalem

TA0210183289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] The Shin Bet and Jerusalem police recently apprehended some members of the strike forces committee that operated in the Jerusalem area. They are suspected of throwing firebombs, including the one that was thrown at the car of police officer Re'uven Perlmutter at the beginning of the month near Bayt Hanina. Perlmutter suffered moderate wounds.

Our police affairs correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that the Shin Bet and Jerusalem police recently uncovered several organizations in East Jerusalem and the Old City whose members are suspected of committing acts of terror in the Jewish Quarter and in the western part of town.

This evening a firebomb was thrown at two students of the Wailing Wall Yeshiva as they were passing David Street in the Old City of Jerusalem. They were not hurt. The bottle crashed and ignited on the road, but no damage was caused. Police forces are combing the area.

Violence, Deaths in Territories Updated

TA2909130989

[Editorial Report] Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English on 29 September, in a report by Mikhal Sela' on pages 1 and 13, states that in incidents in the territories on 28 September "20 Gazans were shot and wounded, two of them seriously, according to Gaza hospitals. Military sources confirmed seven casualties." The report goes on to say that "Khalid al-Qadri, 56, the deputy chairman of the Gaza Bar Association, detained since September 10, was this week remanded for a further 2 weeks. His son 'Isam told THE JERUSALEM POST that his father is suspected of organizing popular committees and of transmitting money to finance their activities."

Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew on 29 September, in a report by Avino'am Bar-Yosef and Me'ir Hare'uveni on page A13, adds that in the incident in which 19-year-old Ballal Jamil 'Anab from Nabulus was killed after throwing acid-filled bottles at an army position, another Nabulus youth "was severely wounded and transferred to a hospital. In Ramallah, 13-year-old 'Abd-al-Hafiz al-Saba from the al-Jalazun refugee camp was shot in the head. He was transferred to a Ramallah hospital, which reported that the boy was in a state of clinical death. Another youth from the al-Am'ari refugee camp sustained a head injury from a plastic bullet."

In a report on page 2 by Roni Shaqed, Nehama Duek, and David Regev on 28 September incidents in the territories, Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew on 29 September reports: "A toddler, age 3 and 1/2, from the Dayr al-Balah refugee camp in the southern Gaza Strip was seriously wounded in the head and neck by army gunfire last night. This was reported by Arab sources." The report adds that "the Gaza military court yesterday sentenced a 26-year-old Gaza resident to 7 years in prison for the possession of hand grenades and for concealing prisoners who escaped from Gaza Prison."

2 Soldiers Wounded by Stones

TA3009184289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 30 Sep 89

[Text] Two soldiers were wounded by stones thrown at them during riots in the Gaza Strip today: a border policeman was wounded in the head and a soldier was wounded in the leg in the al-Burayj refugee camp.

A general strike was staged today in the territories to protest against what was described as U.S. support for Israel.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that a local resident of the village of 'Abasan was murdered yesterday, apparently because he was suspected of collaborating with Israel.

[Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew at 1802 GMT on 30 September adds that "a yeshiva student was wounded in the face in the Old City of Jerusalem this afternoon when a metal object was thrown at him." The report notes that "two local residents were wounded elsewhere in the territories," and quotes Arab sources saying that "14 people were wounded in Khan Yunus and 2 in Gaza in clashes with Israeli army soldiers." Furthermore, "a resident of Khan Yunus was stabbed yesterday by masked men. He was seriously wounded and later died."]

Youth Killed in 'Arrabah

TA0110102189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Text] In disturbances in the Samarian township of 'Arrabah, one local youth was killed and another slightly

wounded. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that bottles, stones, and other objects were thrown at an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] patrol that was carrying out an operation in the town. The soldiers fired plastic bullets, hitting two youths. It was later learned that Muhammad Khalil Abu-Zayyad, 17, was killed in the incident. Official army sources said that an investigation conducted by a senior officer revealed that the army unit acted as instructed.

Two youths were wounded in today's disturbances in Nabulus: 1 in the casbah and another in the Balatah refugee camp. A general strike is under way in Nabulus in protest over the death of a youth in the casbah yesterday. The youth was shot dead after an army patrol was attacked with large stones and the soldiers' lives were endangered.

Salah al-Garah, 26, from the Gaza Strip village of Bani Suhaylah, was murdered last night, presumably because he was suspected of assisting Israel. Local villagers beat the young man to death.

Three soldiers were slightly wounded in stoning incidents in the Gaza Strip last night.

2 Arabs Killed in Samaria

TA0110124789 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1230 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Excerpt] Two Arabs were killed in Samaria today: one in Nabulus and the other in the Janin area. Our correspondent in the territories 'Ido Shargil reports that the latest incident occurred when an army patrol was attacked with stones and blocks from the Nabulus casbah roofs. When the soldiers' lives were endangered, they opened fire. One person throwing blocks from a roof was hit by the gunfire and fell to his death. The 17-year-old casualty was 'Imad Massah Qasim al-Harid from Nabulus. [passage omitted]

Local Disturbances Reported

TA0110174989 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1730 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Text] Most parts of the Gaza Strip were quiet during the high holidays. There were, however, several local disturbances in which a local youth was killed and four others were wounded.

Nabil al-Faydan, 17, from the al-Nusayrat refugee camp, died today of his wounds in al-Ahali Hospital in Gaza this afternoon. His body was snatched from the hospital and taken for a hasty burial. Four local residents were wounded in the central sector of the Gaza Strip when disturbances were dispersed.

The general closure imposed on the Strip before the high holidays will remain in effect until early tomorrow morning.

Gaza Strip Blockade Lifted

TA0210054889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] In a clash last night at the Ayda refugee camp near Bethlehem, a 32-year-old Arab was wounded by army fire and died later in the hospital. Military sources say an army patrol caught three stone throwers in the camp, one of whom was wanted for some time by the authorities. A crowd gathered and attacked the soldiers with big rocks and slingshots. The soldiers opened fire, killing one man and wounding several others. The camp was placed under curfew. [passage omitted]

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0500 GMT on 2 October reports that "the blockade imposed on the Gaza Strip on the eve of the Rosh Hashanah holiday was lifted early this morning."]

'Wanted' Arab Found Slain

TA0210212089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] The body of Mahmud Bani 'Udda, 22, was discovered in the Samaria village of Tammun. He had been stabbed to death. 'Udda had been on the security forces' wanted list for a long time. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that there are several versions of the circumstances of his death. Some residents said he had been murdered by individuals collaborating with Israel. Others contended that the murder must have been motivated by political differences, while a third version spoke of murder over a family conflict. The investigation was transferred to the police.

Six Arab residents were wounded in today's clashes with soldiers in Judaea and Samaria. This afternoon, a stone was thrown at a car parked in Harziyyon Boulevard in Tel Aviv, close to the city's central bus station. Our correspondent Ya'aqov Balselboim reports that the stone, which was thrown from a nearby house, broke the windshield of a car owned by a Herzliyya resident, but caused no injuries. The police combed the area and detained a 25-year-old Nabulus resident.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in English at 1800 GMT on 2 October adds: "In the Gaza Strip, two soldiers were lightly wounded today during stone-throwing incidents at the Jabalyah refugee camp and near the Magen junction in the Negev. An army spokesman says one of them was admitted to a hospital in Ashqelon, and the other was treated at a military clinic and sent back to his unit."]

'Tax Crackdown' Continues

TA0310093689 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 3 Oct 89 p 12

[Report by Joel Greenberg]

[Excerpts] The Civil Administration will this week begin auctioning off more than NIS [new Israeli shekels] 1 million worth of goods confiscated in tax raids on the West Bank town of Bayt Sahur, administration sources said yesterday.

The raids, which have entered their second week, have included extensive confiscation of merchandise and household goods from shops and homes of townspeople owing taxes. Videos, television sets and appliances are among the items seized and carted off in army trucks circulating in the town.

The tax crackdown is a new phase in a long-running contest of wills between the authorities and residents of Bayt Sahur, who have refused to pay taxes as part of a civil disobedience campaign that has been uniquely successful in the mostly Christian, middle-class town near Bethlehem. [passage omitted]

Elsewhere in the territories, a drop in violent clashes was reported after a weekend of heavy unrest. At least 15 persons were reported wounded in clashes with troops, including a 15-year-old from Tubas, north of Nabulus, who was seriously wounded when he was shot in the eye with a rubber bullet, and a 16-year-old who was seriously wounded in the head at the al-Shati' refugee camp in the Gaza Strip. [passage omitted]

General strikes were observed in Nabulus and Bethlehem in mourning for local youths killed in the weekend unrest. In Nabulus, where many schools were closed, residents reported marches by hundreds of schoolgirls. In contrast to the weekend, troops held their fire, but used large quantities of tear gas to break up the processions, and six demonstrators were hospitalized after being overcome by the fumes.

[Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew on 3 October in a report on page 6 by Oren Kohen adds that "some 200 intifadah activists and wanted men staged a demonstration" in the Nabulus casbah yesterday. "The demonstrators, who did not wear masks, addressed themselves to Yasir 'Arafat saying: 'We are losing our patience. Your people are at war and want to take up arms.'" Kohen adds that "public figures in Nabulus have recently said that the city residents wish to change the methods of their struggle as the old ways have yielded no substantial results."] [passage omitted]

Jerusalem police commander Arye Bibi has appointed a special team to investigate the recurrent acts of arson in Jerusalem. On Sunday a car was torched in Zameret Habira. The 15-year-old arsonist, who was caught by local residents, is from the neighbourhood of 'Isawiyah.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0600 GMT on 3 October reports that "during the night the Galilee District Police arrested 16 inhabitants of the village of al-Makr, near 'Akko, suspected of engaging in hostile activities. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that they are charged with flying PLO flags, painting hostile graffiti, and setting a car on fire for nationalist reasons."

Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew on 3 October in a report on page 7 by Mikhal Qedem says that the Gaza Military Court "yesterday sentenced 'Isam al-Majari (19) from Gaza to 6 years in prison and Muhammad Naji (22) from Jabalyah to 30 months in prison" for "membership in terror organizations, activity in the intifadah leadership, and attempts to kill a collaborator."]

King Addresses Al-Tafilah Dignitaries 1 Oct

JN0110141489 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1149 GMT 1 Oct 89

["Text" of King Husayn's speech to dignitaries of al-Tafilah to mark his visit there on 1 Oct—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Thanks be to God, we are now part of the Arab Cooperation Council. We have made every possible effort for this new takeoff down the road of Arab unity and dignity across the great homeland. We are just beginning. All that has been realized thus far amounts to laying foundations for the edifice which we hope will rise on solid ground. [passage omitted]

Here in Jordan we are members of one family. We will keep building and weathering hardships thanks to the enlightenment and contribution of each and everyone of us as well as our dedication and truthfulness. We shall ever chart a clearcut course with the benefit of continuing purposeful and constructive dialogue. Thanks be to God for what has, thus far, been achieved, even though it falls short of our expectations. We are confident that we shall adhere to our march in the interest of future generations. We shall defend this land and use it as a shield against enemies and to protect the nation from the real dangers that we live and experience along the longest confrontation lines. We will never give away our free decisionmaking or give up the standing we have earned through work, sacrifice, and generosity. Nor shall we let slip any of the credibility we have earned in our Arab world and further afield. [passage omitted]

King Opens Conference on Safeguarding Future

JN0210134889 Amman Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] His majesty the king has called for intensifying efforts to promote social, economic, and environmental progress.

Opening a regional conference in Amman today with Her Majesty Queen Nur on safeguarding the future, his majesty called for improving the balance between population growth and distribution of the country's resources.

His majesty said Jordan has given attention to women's role in social development and laid down regulations which give women the opportunity to participate in parliamentary elections. He said the seminar is aimed at preparing for the convening of an international conference to tackle the three major issues—population, women, and the environment. To strike a balance between the population and resources, his majesty said Jordan has sought to develop human resource through concentration on education and training.

Hasan Urges 'Self-Reliant' Palestinian Economy

JN2909071589 Amman Television Service in English 1900 GMT 28 Sep 89

[Text] His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan today stated that development of the Palestinian economy is an essential national requirement to support the oppressed people's steadfastness in the face of Israel's occupation.

In remarks following the conclusion of a 3-day seminar on development in the occupied Arab territories, Prince Hasan urged the Arab nation to foil Israeli plans and help the Palestinians become economically self-reliant. He expressed belief that Jordan and the PLO, backed by Arab assistance, can promote health, housing, education, and economic production in the occupied Arab lands.

The seminar discussed 35 working papers on means of developing the Palestinian economy.

Crown Prince Hasan Leaves for Bahrain 1 Oct

JN0110154889 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Text] Amman—His Highness Crown Prince Hasan left Amman today for Bahrain on a short working visit, during which he will meet with His Highness Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah, His Highness Heir Apparent Hamad Ibn-'Isa Al Khalifah, and senior officials in the fraternal State of Bahrain.

He was seen off at the airport by his majesty the king's political adviser, the king's private secretary, the secretary general of the Royal Court, a number of senior military and government officials, and the Bahraini ambassador to Amman.

Prince Hasan Returns Home

JN0210184889 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Amman—Crown Prince Hasan returned to Amman this evening after a 2-day working visit to Bahrain during which he met with Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah. During the meeting, they discussed the strong relations between the two friendly countries, means of promoting them, the developments in both the Gulf and Arab arenas and a number of issues of mutual interest.

His Highness Crown Prince Hasan also met with Bahraini Heir Apparent Shaykh Hamad Ibn-'Isa Al Khalifah and a number of ranking officials.

He was received at the airport by his majesty's political adviser, his highness the chief chamberlain, his highness the king's private secretary, and a number of civilian and military officials.

Foreign Minister Leaves for New York 30 Sep

JN3009202489 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 30 Sep 89

[Text] Amman—Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Amman today for New York to lead Jordan's delegation to the UN General Assembly meetings.

A royal decree was issued appointing Ibrahim 'Izz-al-Din, minister of state for Cabinet affairs, as acting foreign minister in the absence of the foreign minister.

Foreign Minister al-Qasim Addresses UN Assembly

JN0310084889 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 3 Oct 89

[Text] New York—Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has said that the Palestine question has seen extremely important positive developments in the past two years. He added that there is a historic opportunity for reaching a comprehensive political settlement of this question.

In a speech to the 44th session of the UN General Assembly last night, Al-Qasim went on to say: The continuation and momentum of the Palestinian intifadah has moved political action on behalf of the Palestinians into a phase of action and initiatives. Jordan's decision of 31 July 1988 to sever legal and administrative ties with the occupied West Bank, which was taken in response to the PLO's demands and to the desire of the fraternal Arab states, was a successful contribution to this. This contribution made all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict face up to their responsibilities. The Palestinian leadership began its positive moves by calling the Palestine National Council [PNC] into session in Algiers at the end of last year. This resulted in the PNC's adoption of a host of positive, realistic, and moderate resolutions that have removed obstacles and excuses that have stood in the way of a peaceful settlement—obstacles and excuses behind which Israel has been hiding since the June 1967 aggression.

Al-Qasim added: The positive Palestinian stance was welcomed worldwide and led to the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue, which we hope will develop and continue to help the peace process achieve its objectives. He added: In light of this, we still believe that the proper way to achieve peace is to convene a UN-sponsored international conference with the participation of all parties concerned, including the PLO and the permanent members of the UN Security Council. Such a conference should be held on the basis of UN Resolution 242 and the other relevant UN resolutions pertaining to the rights of the Palestinian people and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

We believe that the United Nations, through its charter and resolutions, constitutes the natural and proper framework for achieving a settlement. The five permanent members of the UN Security Council must put their weight behind efforts to achieve this objective, as they shoulder a special responsibility under the UN Charter. Now that the Arabs have reaffirmed their acceptance of the international peace conference, the five permanent members are urged to persuade Israel to respond favorably to the international community's desire to end the vicious circle of violence and repression and to usher in a period of security, stability, and construction, as Israel cannot have both land and peace.

Al-Qasim reaffirmed that the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli conflict are not the only problems plaguing the Middle East. He added: We welcome the positive development in the Iraq-Iran conflict which ocurred when the cease-fire went into effect last year and efforts were made to achieve peace through direct negotiations as the principal means accepted by both sides to resolve all aspects of this conflict. Today, however, we voice our grave concern and dissatisfaction over the current stalemate and Iran's deliberate slowness in continuing the negotiations under the auspices of the UN secretary general to implement UN Resolution 598 and the 8 August 1988 agreement. This situation continues in spite of the Iraqi stance that has been characterized all along by flexibility, a sense of responsibility, and a sincere desire to reach an agreement that would protect the rights of both parties, ensure good neighborly relations between them, and bring about security and stability for all countries in the region.

Al-Qasim said: The plight of the Lebanese has reached proportions which cannot be tolerated in silence. The agonies, killing, and destruction that have been plaguing the Lebanese have exceeded all limits. In addition, the external threats and intervention in Lebanon have reached a very dangerous point. Out of its eagerness to protect Lebanon and its independence and unity, Jordan has taken part in all Arab endeavors and has supported international efforts to end the Lebanese tragedy. The latest of these efforts was the forming of the higher Arab tripartite committee, which enjoys the confidence and trust of the Arab nation. Moreover, the will of the Arab nation is expressed in the efforts of this committee to find an Arab solution to this plight.

The foreign minister further said: We support the steps taken by the committee and the progress it has made so far. He restated the need to see the Lebanese parties benefit from the meeting of the Lebanese deputies in the city of al-Ta'if and also from the prevailing goodwill and positive circumstances.

Central Bank Issues Memo on Exchange Rate

JN0110164289 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Text] Amman—The Central Bank of Jordan [CBJ] has issued a new memorandum to be implemented as of tomorrow, Monday, informing commercial banks and licensed financial companies of its readiness to meet their foreign currency needs at a price of 685 fils to the dollar. The new rate will be maintained provided the banks abide by a maximum selling price of 690 fils to the

dollar and without taking any commission in order to meet the various needs of their clients that were not included in the CBJ memorandum on the list of basic foodstuffs, commodities, and subsidized services.

This decision comes in light of the CBJ's pursuit of movement in the foreign currency market. The decision follows the measures the CBJ announced during the past period when implementing its policy aimed at stabilizing the exchange rate of the Jordanian dinar.

Foreign Ministry Reduces Number of Diplomats

JN3009121389 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 28 Sep 89 p 1, 23

[By Rabab Mango]

[Text] Amman—Within the framework of Jordan's present policy to tighten expenditures in order to face the economic crisis, the Jordanian Foreign Ministry has pared down its diplomatic staff and administrative personnel at diplomatic missions abroad and in its Amman headquarters. An official source at the Jordanian Foreign Ministry affirmed to AL-QABAS that the economic crisis came as a surprise, so the ministry was not able to plan for its present budget without resorting to cutting back the number of its employees.

The Jordanian source added that the Foreign Ministry spends 4 million dinars [annually] in salaries and expenses for its missions abroad from its 6 million dinar budget. After the dinar devaluation, the ministry found that it will face a deficit of 1.5 million dinars over the rest of the year.

On the other hand, the Finance Ministry asked the Foreign Ministry to either cover the deficit or tighten its belt. The Foreign Ministry had no choice but to resort to this process, especially since the salaries are paid in hard currency. So the Jordanian Foreign Ministry transferred 26 diplomats from abroad to Amman. The number of Jordanian diplomats at the Amman headquaraters has reached 100, and the ministry has pensioned off 17 diplomats.

The Jordanian source affirmed that cutting the expenses of the Foreign Ministry went beyond trimming the number of diplomats. Other measures include the cancellation for 1 year of the home leave granted to the diplomats and their families, as well as a reduction in contributions to medical insurance expenses and the expenses of the embassies in general.

After the Department of the General Budget adds a supplement to the budget, the Foreign Ministry is expected to transfer a number of its employees to other governmental agencies on the basis of their years of service, efficiency, and other qualifications. The source noted that these measures do not mean that the ministry will not find vacancies for the new diplomats.

Cooperation Agreement With Syria Concluded

JN3009135889 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 30 Sep 89 p 3

[Text] Damascus (PETRA J.T.)—Jordan and Syria have concluded an agreement on bilateral cooperation in scientific and technical matters related to oil and natural resources.

The agreement was signed here at the end of a visit to Damascus by Mr. Kamal Juraysat, director general of the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) who held talks with Syrian ministers and technicians on oil exploration and the exploitation of other mineral resources.

Under the agreement, the two countries will exchange information and expertise in geological studies and documents and maps along territories around the common border to facilitate their future joint efforts to exploit natural resources.

Jordan will provide Syria with expertise in setting up a seismological centre in Syria and will coordinate the work of the projected centre with similar centres found in Jordan to facilitate future cooperation.

It said that the two sides will exchange visits by officials and experts to help transfer Jordan's experience in oil shale exploitation such as phosphate, cooper and manganese.

Jordan will try to benefit from the Syrian experiments to set up a geological data bank and will carry out jointly with the Syrian side exploration for mineral resources along the common Jordanian-Syrian border.

Cooperation Protocol With PDRY Approved

JN2809153489 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 28 Sep 89

[Text] Amman, 28 Sep (PETRA)—The Council of Ministers has approved a cooperation protocol between Jordan and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY] which was signed during the visit of the PDRY's president to Jordan last month.

The protocol called for consolidating the existing cooperation between the two countries in various media fields.

Interior Ministry Official on Number of Voters

JN2909113989 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 29 Sep 89

[Text] Amman—Mr Salamah Hammad, acting secretary general of the Interior Ministry, stated that the total number of voters in the final election lists in the Kingdom's voting centers is 1,019,491 men and women voters, as opposed to the incomplete figures published yesterday.

Hizballah Warns Deputies on Change of Regime

NC0210173389 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Hizballah has warned the Lebanese deputies meeting in al-Ta'if against approving any formula that would allow the continuation of the sectarian regime and the holding of presidential elections before the present regime is replaced by a just government.

'Islamic Republic' Threatens Al-Ta'if Deputies

NC0210181289 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] A group calling itself the Organization of the Islamic Republic in Lebanon [Munazzmat al-Jumhuriyah al-Islamiyah fi Lubnan] has threatened to kill the Lebanese deputies meeting in al-Ta'if if they do not endorse a radical reform of the political system.

In a handwritten statement in Arabic delivered to the office of a foreign news agency in Beirut, the group stressed that it will not allow any deputy to live who returns to Lebanon and helps maintain the racist Maronite minority's authority over the oppressed Shiite majority. The statement added that the Lebanese deputies have not enjoyed legitimacy since 1976.

The group's statement assailed the Saudi king, whose country is hosting the meeting, calling him the butcher of the holy shrine. It also attacked David Sutherfield, U.S. Embassy adviser, who it said is in al-Ta'if as an observer.

The group expressed support for Shaykh Fadlallah's demand for a referendum to determine Lebanon's political system. The organization first surfaced on 17 September when it threatened the deputies going to al-Ta'if.

Group Claims Responsibility for Baghdad Attack

LD0210192189 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] An underground Kurdish organization has issued a statement in Sidon, south Lebanon, accepting responsibility for the 21 September attack on a British Club in Baghdad. According to a Central News Unit report from Beirut, the statement says: The operational unit of Halabjah martyrs killed or wounded a number of spies by throwing several bombs at the British Club in Baghdad, which is the espionage center against the Islamic ummah.

PSP Protests Alleged Cease-Fire Violations

NC0310084889 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0430 GMT 3 Oct 89

[Text] Following cease-fire violations by al-Yarzah's gangs [Lebanese Army], Sa'id al-Dawi, representative of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] at the security committee, contacted the two Algerian officers who supervise the committee and informed them of the treacherous attacks by al-Yarzah's gangs and the provocative moves carried out by their gunboats. The Algerian officers contacted the al-Yarzah army representative in the security committee and asked him to stop the violations. The al-Yarzah representative promised to control the situation among his forces.

Al-Yarzah's gangs violated the cease-fire several times yesterday and directed artillery and machinegun fire at the 'Alayh lines. Gunboats were also seen cruising off the al-Jiyah coast in the evening.

'Awn Says Solution Contingent on Syrian Pullout

NC0210190589 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Visitors to the B'abda Palace today have cited Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn as saying that he is prepared to give a solution every opportunity to succeed and that he will never hesitate to support to the tripartite committee's task with all means at his disposal. However, according to the visitors, Gen 'Awn said that certain provisions of the reform document must be modified because he believes the mechanism for a solution should be contingent on the following principles:

1. A timetable for the withdrawal of the Syrian forces should be drawn up in accordance with definite Arab guarantees that would ensure the completion of the withdrawal on time. This step is important because the Lebanese people's long ordeal has taught them how to benefit from past experience and to demand guarantees for all promises.

2. All necessary reforms should be agreed upon now that it has become clear that there is absolute agreement on the principle of effecting reforms for the sake of the national interest. However, it is imperative that a timetable for the withdrawal should be drawn up before specifics of the reforms are determined.

3. And all legitimate constitutional institutions should be revived on the basis of the reforms which will be agreed upon.

Communist Official Rules Out Dialogue With 'Awn

NC2809112689 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0930 GMT 28 Sep 89

[Text] Lebanese Communist Party Secretary General Karim Muruwwah [as heard] has stated that General Michel 'Awn considers the Arab resolutions as a security truce. He emphasized that 'Awn's acceptance of these resolutions was the result of the steadfastness of the nationalist forces and Syria.

In an interview with the "Weekly Event" program on the Voice of National Resistance, Muruwwah said that the reform document under discussion does not fulfill his aspirations. He stressed that there will be no dialogue with 'Awn, but expressed readiness to hold a dialogue with the Lebanese Front and the Lebanese Forces. He

emphasized the need to abolish the present system and create a new one that gives everyone the right to live. He said that it is necessary to establish special relations with Syria.

Egyptians Recruited in Iraq To Fight in Lebanon

NC2909145689 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 11 Sep 89 p 5

[Text] About 400 Egyptian workers in Iraq have been recruited to go to Lebanon to support General Michel 'Awn in his fight against Lebanese Muslims. The Egyptians are going to Lebanon under the name of "The Pan-Arab Army for the Support of Lebanon's Unity." A group of Arabs from other countries who have been working with Iraqi institutions also have been recruited for this purpose.

The Egyptian authorities are trying to halt this process in order that Egypt will not appear to be embroiled in Lebanon's battles at a time when its relations with the various parties to these conflicts, as well as with Syria, are near normal.

Group Attacks Syrian Position in Tripoli

NC0210092289 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] The 16 January Organization for the Liberation of Tripoli has announced that one of its groups opened fire at a Syrian occupation army position in the Ra's al-Sakr area of the port district in Tripoli at dawn today. A Syrian special units sergeant and two other troops in the position were wounded.

Israeli, SLA Activities in South Reported

NC0310100489 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 3 Oct 89

[Text] The Israeli occupation authorities have escalated their campaigns against the liberated areas on land, sea, and in the air. According to reports from the south, Israeli gunboats last night roamed the sea between Sidon and al-Naqurah and tried to approach the coast, but they were intercepted by fire.

The Israeli occupation forces and the Lahd militia [South Lebanese Army] yesterday carried out searches in the liberated and occupied areas, detained a citizen from Kafr Hunah, and stormed houses in al-Khiyam.

According to reports from the eastern sector, Israeli artillery shelled the heights of Bi'r al-Dahr, the Mimis area, and the northern outskirts of Kawkaba. The Lahd militia position in Zummarayya opened machinegun fire at Birkat Mimis and the (al-Dabaghi) woods.

According to reports from Marj 'Uyun, a joint Israeli-Lahd militia force carried out a wide-scale search on the night of 1 October close to the barbed wire along the international borders, particularly in the areas of Hula, al-'Udaysah, al-Majidiyah, Tall al-Nahas, and Kafr Killa.

A joint Israeli-Lahd militia force stormed several houses in al-Khiyam and detained two girls from the 'Awadah family and took them to the al-Khiyam Prison.

In the western al-Biqa', a joint patrol of five armored vehicles carried out searches along the al-Qatrani-al-Surayrah road, occasionally targeting farmers working in their fields.

According to reports from al-'Urqub, the residents of al-Habbariyah have appealed to the UN emergency forces in the area to intervene to prevent the occupation authorities from forcing the people to form a civil administration committee to cooperate with the occupation authorities.

Downed Pilot Captured by Syrians, Released

Plane Crashes Off Al-Batrun

NC0210123389 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] A Lebanese Air Force Hawker Hunter crashed at approximately 1000 today. The pilot, Major George Sarhal, bailed out over the sea. According to exclusive information obtained by the Voice of Lebanon, he has been seized by the Syrians. The radio has also learned that Staff Lieutenant Colonel Michel Lahhud, the army's representative on the security committee, has quickly contacted the committee's two Algerian officers and other people. The contacts produced a promise that Maj Sarhal would be handed back this afternoon.

According to available information, two Air Force Hawker Hunters took off from Halat Air Base on a routine training mission. On the way back, one of the planes developed technical difficulties, and the landing gear failed. The pilot, Maj George Sarhal, attempted several times to operate it. When he could not, he took the plane out over the sea and bailed out. The plane fell and crashed into the sea 2 miles off the al-Batrun coast.

Immediately afterward, Air Force helicopters left for the crash scene to rescue the pilot, but while they were carrying out their mission they attracted antiaircraft fire and Syrian artillery shells. Despite this, the helicopters succeeded in locating the pilot but could not rescue him because of the intensive hostile fire. Meanwhile, Syrian naval units arrived on the scene and rescued the pilot after the Lebanese helicopters had withdrawn because of the intensive gunfire.

Pilot Handed Over to Franjiyah

NC0210142289 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Syrian forces released Lebanese Air Force pilot Major George Sarhal this afternoon, handing him over to

former President Sulayman Franjiyah. He is expected to cross into East Beirut via the al-Madfun crossing shortly. An ambulance vehicle was seen approaching the area.

Maj Sarhal said in Zgharta Palace, where he is staying now, that a technial failure in his aircraft caused its crash and that he had to bail out over the sea off al-Batrun.

Contacts were made through a third party to retrieve the Lebanese Air Force pilot, who was captured by the Syrian occupation forces after he parachuted from the plane off al-Batrun when his Hawker Hunter aircraft crashed during a training sortie.

Pilot's Release Arranged

JN0210142489 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1400 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] With respect to Major George Sarhal who bailed out of his Hawker Hunter plane today after it experienced a technical failure and following reports that the Syrian forces had captured him, we were told by sources close to former President Sulayman Franjiyah that Maj Sarhal is in Zgharta in the custody of Sulayman Tony Franjiyah, the commander of the al-Maradah Forces, and that he will be handed over to the Lebanese army at al-Madfun Bridge a short while from now.

Franjiyah Hands Over Pilot

NC0210184689 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1815 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] We have learned that Air Force pilot Major George Sarhal was handed over to the Army Command this evening. The pilot said that he was well treated by the Syrians and the al-Maradah forces. He expressed his appreciation for former President Sulayman Franjiyah's efforts.

Pilot Blames Landing Gear

JN0310080489 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 3 Oct 89

[Text] Beirut—Lebanese Pilot George Sarhal, who was rescued by a Syrian naval vessel after his helicopter [as heard; word rendered in English] went down yesterday, was returned to his military base.

AFP quoted the Lebanese pilot as saying that he was on a routine flight at an altitude of 1,000 meters when landing equipment failed in his British-made aircraft due to technical problems. He then parachuted 2 km from the Lebanese coast north of Beirut.

The Lebanese pilot thanked the Syrian Arab Forces in northern Lebanon for rescuing him and for the good treatment he received after he was picked up from the sea.

Earlier, the Syrian Arab Forces handed the Lebanese pilot over to former Lebanese President Sulayman Franjiyah, who in turn handed him over to his base.

Al-Shar' Meets Soviet Counterpart in New York

JN0210204889 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] New York—Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' met with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze here today. The meeting was attended by Assistant Foreign Minister Diya'ullah al-Fattal and Soviet Assistant Foreign Minister Gennadiy Tarasov. During the meeting, they discussed the friendly and cooperative relations between Syria and the Soviet Union as well as ways to promote them in the various areas. They also reviewed the international situation and regional disputes.

The two ministers also discussed the regional situation, especially the Arab-Israeli conflict and the current attempts to ignore the bases of a just and comprehensive settlement in the region. They also discussed efforts to solve the Lebanese crisis, and the two sides expressed support for the efforts of the Arab tripartite committee to solve the Lebanese crisis in accordance with the Casablanca summit resolution. Shevadnadze also expressed the Soviet leadership's appreciation for Syria's assistance to Lebanon, stressing that this assistance is essential for the Arab tripartite committee's success.

Official Denies Syria Approves of 10-Point Plan

JN0210154589 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 1 Oct 89 p 24

[Excerpt] New York, 1 Oct—A senior Syrian official has denied that his country approves of the 10-point Egyptian proposal. In a statement to AL-WATAN, he said that the Syrian foreign minister stressed during his 1-hour meeting on Saturday with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker that Syria will not be a party to the current Israeli-Egyptian game of proposals. He also told Baker that Syria continues to insist on the convening of the international conference, which enjoys the support of the other four permanent Security Council member states, in order to bring peace to the region.

The Syrian official said that reports saying Syria approved of the 10 points were mere nonsense and aimed at sowing seeds of confusion among the Arabs. The official said the Syrian delegation is prepared to provide the full minutes of the Al-Shar'-Baker meeting to the Arab foreign ministers during their meeting in New York Tuesday.

On the meeting between the two ministers, the Syrian official said: We told Baker that Syria supports the current efforts of the Arab tripartite committee, and we stressed to him that the latest committee statement does not point from far or near to a Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon. [passage omitted]

Ba'th Party Member Receives Visiting Soviet

JN0210143289 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Damascus—Comrade Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's National Command and head of our country's Peace Council, has received a delegation of workers active in the Soviet Peace Committee in a number of the Soviet Union's republics headed by (Aleksandr Velonik), professor at the University of Eastern Studies in Moscow. Talks centered on the strong relations of friendship and cooperation between the two friendly parties, people, and the two peace committees in the countries, and on the most important regional and world issues.

Comrade Bajbuj affirmed the country's principled stand under comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the party and president of the republic, supporting the struggle of the Lebanese people to achieve national accord in Lebanon based on political reforms conforming with the interests of the fraternal Lebanese people and guaranteeing their sovereignty, independence, Arab identity, and unity of land and people.

He also affirmed that the total Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied territories and guarantees on the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian Arab people are the only way to achieve just and firm peace in the region.

Comrade Dr (Aleksandr Velonik) explained aspects of the Soviet Union's policy on the internal and external fronts and the basic tasks entrusted to it to reconstruct and establish international detente. He also expressed his appreciation of Syrian policy and stands on regional and world issues.

They affirmed anew the importance of promoting friendship, cooperation, and coordination between the two sides in all fields to serve the interest of peace and justice in the Middle East region and the world and to strengthen the march of liberty and progress of nations.

'Awn's Approach to Al-Ta'if Meeting Criticized

JN0210153289 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Station commentary]

[Text] With news reports painting a positive picture of the proceedings of the al-Ta'if meetings, 'Awn is being his provocative self again. He sees himself in a state of ongoing war until he fulfills his so-called liberating mission. Once again, he will not talk about political reform.

Before their departure for al-Ta'if, the deputies from the eastern areas were convened by 'Awn who asked them to set their face against any reformist trend, in other words, to disrupt Arab efforts and thus render the parliamentary

meeting a failure. 'Awn issued direct threats to the deputies and dubbed a traitor any one of them who embraced reform.

In reality 'Awn is still afraid and unsure about the results. Reports from al-Ta'if suggest there is near-consensus among the Lebanese deputies to render their meetings a success. The parliamentarians are said to be determined to address national reconciliation and debate its requirements. They are also said to be imbued with a deep sense of responsibility, with the exception of a minority that has sought to cloud the atmosphere and whip up tension and put forward proposals irrelevant to the framework, like the Syrian withdrawal for example.

This minority has, however, failed to impress any one, as many of the Lebanese deputies lauded Syria's positive and effective role and their speeches underscored the need for the Israeli forces to be expelled from southern Lebanon. It was more out of a fear of 'Awn and an attempt to avert tangling with him and his clique rather than from a conviction that these few deputies took this position. The Lebanese deputies realize that linkage between reform and Syrian withdrawal is only a ruse. All the Lebanese—Christians and Muslims alike—stand to gain from reform, should it come to pass. Syria went to Lebanon, to begin with, at the request of the Lebanese. There is no denying the fact that the Syrian deployment in Lebanon has afforded protection to both Christians and Muslims and averted gruesome sectarian massacres.

Christian, more particularly Maronite interests, will hardly be helped by a majority of the Lebanese pointing a finger at the spoilers of a solution. In the final analysis, Lebanon can only lead a normal life with cooperation among all its children. The destructive internal strife has hurt the interests of all parties, paralyzed their economic activities, and caused them terrible suffering. After all, Lebanon is not South Africa where white colonialists have a monopoly of privileges and deny black Africans all their rights. The Lebanese people—its Christians and Muslim components alike—are Arabs with common history, language, and roots. Leaders of the Arab renaissance included Christians, and so it does not make sense that they become, as 'Awn and isolationists want them to be, advocates of objectionable racial and sectarian discrimination. Recent history testifies to the contribution of Christian brothers to defending Arabs both in Lebanon and in the New World. The isolationists, who claim to speak for the Christians, have forced themselves on others with coercion and intimidation. 'Awn's policies, provocations, and threats to deputies and figures of East Beirut are conclusive evidence of these tactics.

Syria is Lebanon's natural extension and support in all crises. Without Syrian backing and help, Lebanon's security remains a hollow proposition. And those who are looking for Israel to provide support for Lebanon are only leading the fellow Christians to catastrophe and suicide. All the Lebanese—in the south, in Beirut, and Mount Lebanon—have tasted Israeli occupation that does not distinguish between Christians and Muslims. Instead, Israeli occupation views them all as Arabs who must be repressed with all possible means and have their land occupied and their possessions looted.

Over the past 14 years Syria has exhorted the Lebanese to effect national reconciliation and made Herculean efforts toward that end. On more than one occasion Syrian efforts on behalf of this objective nearly bore fruit. But the isolationists—Israel's agents—have sabotaged all these attempts. Syria stands behind all well-intentioned Lebanese and urges the Lebanese deputies to approach political reform in earnest and to promote common ground toward reconciliation and take the initative from manipulators of the security of Lebanon and the Lebanese. This way Lebanon will be saved from ruin and disintegration and all the Lebanese without exception will have security and stability.

Afghanistan

Pakistan Charge Summoned to Foreign Ministry

LD0210172489 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] The charge d affaires of Pakistan's Embassy in Kabul was summoned this afternoon, 2 October, to the Foreign Ministry. The following points were conveyed to him by the acting head of the First Political Section of that ministry: The flagrant and obvious violations by the Government of Pakistan of the provisions of the Geneva accords are continuing and intensifying.

Supplying the extremist opposition with deadly weapons, which kill and injure our defenseless civilian compatriots, clearly showns the collaboration of the opposition with Pakistan's state terrorism.

In accordance with reports received by the country's security forces, on 1 October, a number of missiles were launched at crowded places in Kabul city by extremists armed by Pakistan. As a result, a number of our compatriots were killed and injured, and a number of private houses, buildings, and vehicles were destroyed or damaged.

The Republic of Afghanistan condemns such savage actions by the extremists, which are being carried out with the direct support of Pakistani state terrorism and strongly protests to the Government of Pakistan, and once again draws the attention of the Pakistani side to its flagrant interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs, the grave consequences of which will rest with the authorities in Pakistan.

Najibullah Congratulates PRC on Anniversary

LD0110172189 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Text] Esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, sent a congratulations message to Beijing, addressed to His Excellency PRC President Yang Shangkun, on the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the PRC.

Expressing a desire to normalize friendly relations and traditional cooperation between the countries' people, the message offers warm congratulationsto the PRC. It also mentions its wish to have the support of its Chinese friends in the political resolution of the Afghan situation, the success of the national reconciliation policy, and the restoration of peace.

Khowst Contingents Strengthening Defenses

LD3009100489 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0442 GMT 30 Sep 89

[Text] Kabul, Sep. 29, BAKHTAR—Contingents and detachments of the garrison of the Khowst Grand District are strengthening and equipping their defensive strongholds and are preparing for their next tasks, reported an authorised military source to BAKHTAR.

The report adds, extremists, Pakistani militarists and Saudi Wahhabis fired rockets, during the past 24 hrs, on Asmail Khail [placename as received], Tani, Gardeyz and some other regions of Paktia Province and Khowst city resulted in injuring five soldiers and killing one another [as received]. As a result of artillery and air strikes of the government Armed Forces, 22 extremists were killed and eight others injured, a tank, a rocket launcher and a large amount of enemies' weapons were also destroyed.

The extremist joint forces supported by Corps No. 11 of the Pakistani Army rocketted defence lines and strongholds of the Armed Forces in Nangarhar, Qandahar and Herat Provinces, injured two soldiers, the government Armed Forces retaliated, killed ten extremists, wounded 15 others, an ammunition depot of the enemies including two mortars and light and heavy weapons of rebels were destroyed.

BAKHTAR Details 1 Oct Military Situation

LD0110061589 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0512 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Text] Kabul, Sep. 30, BAKHTAR—In a counter-attack operation carried out by the Armed Forces stationed in Khowst Grand District, Paktia Province, and several parts of the provinces of Nangarhar, Herat and Zabol, 127 foes were killed and 165 injured in those provinces. Included among the killed were Pakistani militarymen as well. Meanwhile, during these operations, five persons including one serviceman were killed and eight injured.

A large quantity of the enemy's arms and weapons also fell at the hand of the detachments of the Armed Forces in those provinces.

In Grand Khowst District, as a result the enemy's firing of heavy weapons five persons including one serviceman were killed and six servicemen injured. The enemy's attack was repulsed as a result of which 85 foes were killed and 105 injured.

Similarly, in Nangarhar Province the enemy also opened fire with heavy weapons as a result of which two personnel of the Armed Forces were wounded. However, the Armed Forces inflicted a heavy blow on the enemy as a result of which ten extremists were killed and twenty others injured.

According to another report, the detachments of the armed forces stationed in Kushk District, Herat Province, and in Zabol Province, carried out mopping up operations as a result of which 32 enemies were killed and 40 injured in total.

According to another report, the security forces of the country prevented the occurrence of two tragic incidents in Kabul city.

The criminal extremists had placed in a sport box two kilogrammes of explosive materials with a time pencil at the vicinity of ticket office of the Ariana Afghan Airlines

and another 3 kg with two time pencils near to Pamir cinema in the centre of Kabul city. The explosives were detected and defused in time by the security forces with the assistance of the local people.

Bangladesh

Pakistan's Bhutto Continues Visit to Dhaka

Further on Ershad Meeting

BK0210135989 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Bangladesh and Pakistan held official talks in Dhaka Monday [2 October]. The two sides reviewed bilateral relations. Regional and international issues of common concern were also discussed. The Bangladesh side at the talks was led by President Ershad, while Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto led her country's delegation. Briefing newsmen afterwards Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud said a joint press statement on the talks will be issued Tuesday.

Adviser to Pakistan Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs and National Security Iqbal Akhund, who was also present at the news briefing, described Benazir Bhutto's visit to Bangladesh as a goodwill one. He said in view of very close and cordial relations existing between the two countries, the prime minister has undertaken her first visit of SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] countries to Bangladesh. The visit will bring the two countries closer together. Mr Iqbal Akhund said there is no problem or dispute between Bangladesh and Pakistan.

After the talks, a protocol on cultural cooperation and program was signed between the two countries. Under the program, the two countries will exchange visits of professors and teachers. There will be exchange of students and scholarships for higher studies. The two countries will also exchange publications on archaeology and tourism, besides exchange of radio programs. Additional Cultural Secretary of Bangladesh Hamid Shariful Islam and additional [as heard] Foreign Secretary of Pakistan Khalid Mahmud signed the protocol.

Earlier in the morning Benazir Bhutto visited the national mausoleum at Sawar. She laid wreaths at the monument as a mark of respect to the martyrs of the war of independence. She also planted a sapling there.

At a banquet meeting held in honor of Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, President Ershad expressed his support to the call for the establishment of a nuclear weapon-free zone in South Asia. He said Bangladesh's commitment to the disarmament is total and (?indivisible) and would like see our region free from the threat of nuclear annihilation. President Ershad said Bangladesh and Pakistan share similar views on many international issues. Both the countries stand for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, condemn the abhorrent policy of apartheid, support the cause for the Namibian independence, and stand for political settlement in Afghanistan, Kampuchea, and Cyprus.

Speaking at the banquet, Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto reaffirmed her country's resolve to move forward along the path of cooperation and friendship with Bangladesh. The prime minister, Benazir Bhutto, said the cooperation between Pakistan and Bangladesh is based on trust and respect for each other. She said Bangladesh has made commendable progress in many fields under the able leadership of President Ershad.

Biharis Demand Repatriation

BK0210143089 Hong Kong AFP in English 1429 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Dhaka, Oct 2 (AFP)—Biharis demanding repatriation to Pakistan Monday [2 October] clashed with police, who charged them and fired several rounds of teargas close to the Korotoa State Guest House, where visiting Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto is staying.

Thousands of Biharis fought with police and threw stones in the Mohammadpur area of Dhaka for at least three hours, as Ms. Bhutto attended a civic reception in the grounds of the national parliament nearby.

The protestors, carrying placards in Bengali, Urdu and English, left their camp in Mohammadpur and attempted to stage a sit-in near the parliament house, but were chased by riot police, some armed with rifles. The Biharis' placards read, "Announce our repatriation quickly" and, "Long live Benazir Bhutto."

Most of some 250,000 Bihari Moslems still in Bangladesh live in one of 66 refugee camps in the country. Many of them collaborated with the Pakistan Army during the war of independence and then refused to accept Bangladesh citizenship after the war. Bangladesh, formerly East Pakistan, broke away to become an independent country after a nine-month war in 1971.

The Pakistani prime minister arrived here Sunday on a three-day official visit, her first to Bangladesh since voted to power almost a year ago.

Asked if the police had detained any of protestors, one officer on duty snapped, "Operation is still on... Come later." But Biharis, armed with rods, daggers and sticks, claimed that some of their compatriots had been arrested and that their leader, Muhammad Nasim Khan, was being treated at a nearby clinic with serious head injuries. The incident blocked traffic on the Mirpur Road several times and caused a brief jam at the entrance of the Korotoa Guest House.

Leaders of the Stranded Pakistani General Repatriation Committee (SPGRC), which represents the Biharis, had earlier demanded a meeting with Ms. Bhutto.

Police fought in several lanes and alleys with the Biharis, who rained stones and bricks on them. The police also fought briefly with the Biharis at a road junction several kilometers from Korotoa. Police however denied the incident, saying that some Biharis riding in a bus had been asked to take a different route to Mohammadpur.

Early on Monday, a spokesman for the SPGRC had threatened to march to Korotoa unless Ms. Bhutto agreed to meet the group's leaders. "We will march down to Korotoa under any circumstances and even if police fired to stop us, unless Mohotarama (Ms.) Bhutto agreed to meet us," SPGRC acting president said.

All shops in the Mohammadpur camp, where about 6,000 Biharis live, remained closed on Monday to insist on a meeting with Ms. Bhutto, the spokesman said. They added that Bihari communities in the northern districts of Saidpur and Rangpur also held protest rallies on Sunday.

Officials earlier said the repatriation of Biharis to Pakistan could be raised during talks Monday between Ms. Bhutto and Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad. But at a joint press briefing on Monday, Bangladesh Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud and Ms. Bhutto's advisor Iqbal Akhund said the issue had not been raised, adding that the talks were continuing. A joint statement is expected to be released on Tuesday, before Ms. Bhutto returns to Islamabad.

On Sunday and Monday the SPGRC published an advertisement in a local newspaper, to welcome the Pakistani prime minister. The advertisement said, "We are confident our long years of agony and misery shall come to an end and her visit would now ensure our expeditious repatriation to our cherished homeland."

Civic Reception Held 2 Oct

BK0310040189 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1430 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Excerpts] In the afternoon, the Dhaka Municipal Corporation held a civic reception in honor of Benazir Bhutto at the north plaza of the Parliament House. Speaking on the occasion, the Pakistani prime minister gave assurances that her country will stand by Bangladesh in its hour of need. She expressed her satisfaction over the steadily expanding and strengthening relations between Bangladesh and Pakistan. The two countries hold common views on important regional and international issues and are working together for regional peace and security. They expect good relations among the countries of South Asia to promote cooperation between SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] member states.

Ms Bhutto said Pakistan and Bangladesh are against the induction of nuclear weapons into the region and also against interference in the internal affairs of other states. They are committed to the principles of sovereign equality, independence, and territorial integrity of all states, and believe in the nonuse of force in interstate relations. The two countries also advocate a regional solution to the problem of nuclear proliferation.

Benazir Bhutto said that Pakistan and Bangladesh are active members of the Nonaligned Movement and the Islamic Conference Organization, and that Pakistan's reentry into the Commonwealth now provides a forum in which Dhaka and Islamabad can work together to pursue their common objectives. The Pakistani prime minister spoke of the excellent bilateral relations between Dhaka and Islamabad in the areas of trade and commerce, education, culture, and science and technology. Bilateral trade has increased over the years. She expressed the hope that economic cooperation will continue to benefit mutually the people of both countries. She also hoped that her visit will give further impetus to bilateral economic cooperation. [passage omitted] President Ershad also attended the civic reception.

Holds News Conference

BK0310083089 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 3 Oct 89

[Text] Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of Pakistan was given a hearty send-off when she left Dhaka this morning for home, ending the 3-day official visit to Bangladesh. President and Begum Raushan Ershad bade farewell to Benazir Bhutto and her husband Asif Ali Zardari. Vice President Moudud Ahmed, Prime Minister Kazi Zafar Ahmed, ministers, high civil and military officials, diplomats, and a number of Pakistani nationals were present at Zia International Airport. A smartly turned out contingent drawn from three services presented the guard of honor to Benazir. She took the salute and inspected the guard. National anthems of both countries were played.

Earlier, at a news conference at the state guest house at Korotoa, Benazir Bhutto described her visit as very successful. The visit, she said, will give further impetus to bilateral relations. Benazir Bhutto said the whole range of bilateral relations was discussed during formal talks with President Ershad. They also held talks on regional and international issues of common concern. She said the relations between Bangladesh and Pakistan were based on strong foundations.

The two sides have decided to further strengthen bilateral cooperation for mutual benefit of their people. An agreement has been reached under which Karachi Shipyard will give Bangladesh two container vessels. Bangladesh will export tea and jute, and Pakistan on its part will export to Bangladesh rice and cotton. A protocol on cultural cooperation and exchange program has also been signed.

In reply to a question on the repatriation of stranded Pakistanis, Benazir Bhutto said both countries are concerned over this complex issue. The problem, she said, figured during formal talks and officials of the two countries have been asked to decide on steps for a

solution. She described the question of assets and liabilities between Bangladesh and Pakistan as another complicated issue. She said officials of the two countries have been asked to find an equitable solution to the problem.

Replying to a question on Afghanistan, Benazir Bhutto said Pakistan favors a political settlement. What is needed, she said, is a broad-based government representing different factions. This, she said, will encourage Afghan refugees to return home.

The Pakistani prime minister said her country wants arms control talks in the region. She said an unending arms race will only foment trouble and disturb peace in the region.

Replying [to] a question on SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation], Benazir Bhutto said despite outstanding issues between member states, it is a viable and effective forum to achieve common objectives of literacy, trade, drug prevention, and agricultural development. She expressed the hope that outstanding issues will not jeopardize the spirit of SAARC. She hoped the current trade problem between India and Nepal will be solved amicably. She said President Ershad has accepted her invitation to visit Pakistan. Benazir Bhutto thanked the government and the people of Pakistan for the warm and cordial hospitality accorded to her and the members of her entourage during the visit. She said she is returning home with very pleasant memories of Bangladesh.

Comments on Regional Issues

BK0310091489 Hong Kong AFP in English 0906 GMT 3 Oct 89

[Text] Dhaka, Oct 3 (AFP)—Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said here Tuesday [3 October] that it was unfortunate no Afghan rebel group favours the Kabul government, as an aide revealed that Islamabad and Moscow were close to agreement on a proposed solution to the Afghan conflict.

Ms. Bhutto, whose government has traditionally supported the rebel mujahidin against the Soviet-backed Kabul administration of President Najibullah, told reporters, "We consider setting up of a broad-based representative government by the people of Afghanistan as the only solution to the problem."

Speaking before leaving for Islamabad at the end of a three-day visit to Bangladesh, she said that "unfortunately" none of the Afghan opposition, including former king Zahir Shah, is "in favour of the regime" in Kabul. Continued conflict in Afghanistan "is not in the interests" of Pakistan, Afghanistan or the Soviet Union, she said.

Ms. Bhutto's advisor on foreign affairs and national security, Iqbal Akhund, said that Pakistani and Soviet officials meeting at the United Nations in New York were close to agreement on a draft resolution outlining a political solution to the Afghan problem. "We are discussing the text of a consensus resolution. I think we are on the path of reaching an agreement. It is now basically a question of language acceptable to all concerned members," he said.

Ms. Bhutto, who held 90 minutes of talks Tuesday with Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad covering "the entire gamut of bilateral relations as well as regional and international issues," said Pakistan was pressing for a political solution to the problem.

Ms. Bhutto arrived here Sunday to a tumultous welcome to start the official visit, her first to a South Asian country since being voted to power nearly a year ago. The 36-year-old premier said she was returning home with "most pleasant memories."

"Some concrete steps have been taken...on a path of enhanced cooperation" between Dhaka and Islamabad during the visit, she said. She said that both sides have resolved to direct their officials to find a solution to the problem of some 258,000 Pakistanis or Biharis languishing in refugee camps in Bangladesh since Bangladesh broke away from Pakistan in 1971.

On the second day of her visit Monday, thousands of Biharis demanding their immediate repatriation to Pakistan fought with police and threw stones in Dhaka's Mohammadpur area for three hours while Ms. Bhutto attended a civic reception at the nearby parliament complex.

On Pakistan's relations with its neighbour India, the prime minister said that since her meetings with Premier Rajiv Gandhi last year and this year, the countries had made progress in lessening tension. She referred to the agreement not to attack each other's nuclear plants and also to steps taken to limit the cross-border migration, but added that there is "still much ground to be covered." Ms. Bhutto said that she was looking forward to visiting India soon.

Foreign Minister Meets With Shevardnadze at UN

BK0210141589 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud had a meeting with the Soviet foreign minister, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, in New York Sunday [1 October]. The two ministers expressed desire to work for the development of all-round relations. Mr Shevardnadze conveyed warm greetings of President Gorbachev to President Ershad. Mr Mahmud also carried a message of warm regards from the Bangladesh president to the Soviet leader.

Ershad Greets PRC State Leaders on Anniversary

BK0110130589 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Text] President Ershad has felicitated President Yang Shangkun of China on the occasion of 40th anniversary of the founding of People's Republic of China. In a

message to the Chinese president, he expressed his sincere belief that the traditional bonds of friendship, mutual understanding, and close cooperation existing between the two countries will continue to grow from strength-to-strength in the years ahead for the mutual benefit of the two people. The president has also felicitated the Chinese premier, Li Peng, on the occasion.

Contracts Signed With PRC for Road Projects

BK3009164289 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 Sep 89

[Text] Two contracts were signed between Bangladesh and China in Dhaka today for the construction of (Sandhiganj) Bridge and improvement of Daulatia-Kushtia Road. The contracts were signed by the chief engineer of Roads and Highways Department, Sheikh Fazlur Rahman, and vice chairman of the Chinese [word indistinct] Export Corporation, Mr (Wu Chichan). Communications Minister Anwar Hussain and Chinese Ambassador in Bangladesh Songlu Chen were present on the occasion.

The (Sandhiganj) Bridge over River Brahmaputra, which will be 454 meters long, will be constructed at a total cost of 78 crore 64 lakh taka of which the Chinese aid is 43 crore 62 lakh taka. The construction work of the bridge is expected to be completed by December 1991.

Under the second contract, 144-km-long Daulatia-Faridpur-Jhinaidaha-Kushtia Road will be improved at international standard. It will cost about 150 crore taka and will be financed by Asian Development Bank [passage indistinct].

India

External Affairs Minister Meets Shevardnadze

BK0310092389 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 3 Oct 89

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao, met his Soviet counterpart, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, in New York last night. Mr Shevardnadze briefed Mr Rao about his meetings with the American president, Mr George Bush, and the secretary of state, Mr James Baker. Mr Rao invited Mr Shevardnadze to visit India next year.

Mr Rao also met the foreign ministers of Indonesia, Jordan, and Turkey. The discussions with the Indonesian foreign minister were of the nature of follow-up action on the Belgrade summit of nonaligned countries. The Cambodian issue also came up.

Spokesman on Nepalese Minister's Remarks at IMF

BK2909150589 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1430 GMT 29 Sep 89

["Official Spokesman's Statement on Nepal on 29.9.89"—ISI headline]

[Text] In reply to a question about press reports on "Nepal Raises Issue at IMF Meet," the spokesman said that we have seen press reports regarding the Nepalese finance minister's remarks made at the annual meeting of the World Bank and IMF. We have noted that the Nepalese finance minister has spoken of the "sudden abrogation" of the trade and transit treaties between the two countries. We have also noted that the Nepalese finance minister has made certain other observations about the situation in Nepal consequent upon the lapse of the treaties. We have never believed in raising bilateral issues at international fora. We do not intend to make a departure from this practice now. Nevertheless, it is worth recalling that the treaties referred to by the Nepalese finance minister actually expired in March, 1988. The draft agreement for renewing these treaties was only initialled in October 1988. It was, however, perfectly clear that the treaties could not be finalised unless the Nepalese fulfilled certain conditions. The Nepalese were fully aware of this. Since the treaties had actually lapsed in March 1988 and had been extended on an ad hoc basis for a six-month period, the Nepalese, therefore, had a full 12 months in which to fulfil the required provisions and complete the process of negotiations. It is, therefore, inaccurate and incorrect to describe the final lapse of the treaties in March 1989 as the Nepalese finance minister has chosen to do, as a "sudden abrogation." We have always believed in a constructive and cooperative dialogue. We feel that this is the only way to solve problems of this nature. To bring them up at international fora is merely an effort to seek publicity of doubtful value which serves no useful purpose.

In reply to a question about seizure of hashish at the Nepalese border, the spokesman said that 12 crore rupees worth of hashish has been apprehended at the Indo-Nepalese border, 12 crore of rupees at the Indian market value. The street value of that in New York is several times more. The investigation so far has revealed that this entire consignment was being shipped to the Western market of Europe and America. The investigations are still going on.

Accuses Nepal of Seeking Publicity

BK2909142489 Hong Kong AFP in English 1334 GMT 29 Sep 89

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 29 (AFP)—India slammed Nepal Friday [29 September] for raising a bilateral dispute over trade and transit at a multilateral forum in the latest war of words between the two South Asian neighbours.

A spokesman for the External Affairs Ministry said the Nepalese action at the plenary session of the annual International Monetary Fund-World Bank meetings in

Washington was an effort "merely aimed at seeking publicity of doubtful value which serves no useful purpose.

"We have always believed in a constructive and cooperative dialogue," the spokesman said. "We feel that this is the only way to resolve problems of this nature."

On Wednesday, Nepalese Finance Minister Bharat Bahadur Pradhan reportedly blamed India's "sudden abrogation" of the two countries' trade and transit treaties in March for economic ills facing the landlocked Himalayan Kingdom.

The Indian spokesman disputed Mr. Pradhan's reference to "sudden abrogation," noting that the treaties had actually lapsed in March 1988 and been extended for a year. "It is inaccurate and incorrect to describe the final lapse of the treaties in March 1989 as a 'sudden abrogation' as the Nepalese finance minister has chosen to do," the spokesman said.

The treaties were allowed to lapse as the two sides disagreed over the structure of a new agreement. India wanted a unified pact to govern trade and transit, and Nepal insisted on separate agreements.

Following the treaties' expiration, India suspended an array of trade concessions and closed all but two points of passage to the Hindu Kingdom in measures which have caused serious damage to the Nepalese economy.

The latest war of words came after a summit meeting between Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and King Birendra of Nepal at a Non-Aligned Movement conference in Belgrade in early September. At that meeting, the two sides decided to start official-level talks to resolve the dispute which has cooled traditionally warm relations governed by a 1950 friendship treaty. The Indian spokesman said Friday that he was not aware where "the ball lies at the present moment."

The Indian spokesman said customs officials had intercepted hashish worth millions of dollars on the border with Nepal on Wednesday. Smugglers were trying to bring the contraband into India to be shipped to Western countries when it was intercepted, he said, adding that "some arrests were made." The seizure was worth 7.2 million U.S. dollars in India and several times more than that in New York, he said, but gave no other details.

India has in the past expressed concern at the activities of smugglers operating on the Indo-Nepalese border who it believes have diversified in recent years from electronics and textiles to gold and, more worryingly, drugs.

Editorial on Prospects for PRC Trade Relations

BK2909135189 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in Engish 23 Sep 89 p 11

[Editorial: "Sino-Indian Trade"]

[Text] The first ministerial level meeting of the India-China Joint Commission which ended in New Delhi on Wednesday [20 September] is noteworthy not for what it yielded in concrete trade terms, but for underscoring the desire of the two Asian giants to explore the limitless potential for developing economic relations between them. The three-day exercise was a follow-up of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's visit to China last December when the two countries decided in principle to give a push to Sino-Indian economic relations. New Delhi and Beijing formalised their mutual trade for the first time in August 1984 when they signed an agreement to accord each other the most favoured nation treatment. Trade protocols were signed in successive fiscal years, but trade remained at a low level. Currently, within that low level, India has an adverse trade balance of Rs [rupees] 132 crore, which caused the Indian side to express some concern. The new protocol is expected to at least reduce this gap, if not wipe it out. However, it seems pretty clear that trade turnover between India and China will not be a true indicator of the possibilities for expanding their economic ties. Both countries are large markets themselves, and have not particularly stressed exports to be the key factor for growth until recently. As a result, the exports of each one are relatively steady and destined for stable markets. This makes it unlikely that India and China will be able to suddenly discover markets in either country for their commodities to register a spectacular increase in the trade turnover.

While the search for expanding trade must continue, India and China should in the short term emphasise other areas for economic cooperation. It is reassuring that the two countries will cooperate during negotiations under the Uruguay round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. Both are committed to fight against protectionism. It will even be profitable for them to join hands to soften the rigours of the Paris Convention on intellectual property. China and India hopefully will also explore the wide field of setting up joint ventures not only in their own countries but in others too. Two specific areas which should interest India in particular are, first, in seeking protection for Indian businessmen after Hong Kong is transferred to China in 1997; and, second, in exploring the possibility of selling consultancy services to China in area where it lacks adequate managerial skill. China's managerial ability has not grown, nor will it in the immediate future, to meet the demands that a socialist economy rapidly transiting to a freer one make.

2 Security Police Killed in Punjab 2 Oct

BK0310050589 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 3 Oct 89

[Text] In Punjab, two members of the security forces were killed and eight seriously injured in a land mine explosion in Amritsar District last night. According to an official spokesman, a party of the CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] on two vehicles was on a patrolling duty when a land mine exploded under one of the vehicles near village (Kotla Gol Shah) at about 9 a.m.

[time as heard]. Meanwhile, the police arrested two terrorists from Kharinda area of Amritsar District last night.

Uranium Production at 'All-Time High' in 1988-89

BK3009092989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 30 Sep 89

[Text] The production of uranium was at an all-time high in the country in the year 1988-89. The chairman of the Uranium Corporation of India, Mr M.K. Batra, said in Bombay that the corporation achieved production worth over 33 crore rupees during this period.

Iran

Afghan Opposition Leaders Arrive for Seminar

LD3009085489 Tehran IRNA in English 0715 GMT 30 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 30, IRNA—President of Afghan Interim Government Sebghatullah Mojadeddi arrived here Friday night at the head of an 87-member delegation to participate at the second seminar on Afghanistan.

The delegation which includes representatives of all groups of the Peshawar-based Afghan Mujahidin Seven-Party Alliance and independent parties, was welcomed by Vice-President Ataullah Mohajerani.

The seminar sponsored by the Iranian Foreign Ministry will be held from October 2-4.

Leader of Jamiat-i Islami Burhanuddin Rabbani, and heads of three Pakistan-based groups Mawlawi Nasrullah, Mansur Qazi and Qadir Mawlawi as well as four Afghan women are among the delegation.

President's Message Read

LD0210121689 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] We begin this newscast with a report on the second international conference for the examination of Afghan issues, which opened today with a message from President Hashemi-Rafsanjani, at the Foreign Ministry Center for Political and International Studies in Tehran.

According to the Central News Unit, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani's message, which was read by Mr Mo'ayeri, the president's adviser for international affairs, states: This conference is a sign of the increasing interest which our people have had, during recent years, in issues relating to the Muslims of the world and especially to our neighbor, Afghanistan, and its problems and difficulties. This positive development has its roots, on the one hand, in the revitalization of Islam in our country and, on the other, shows the establishment of interdependence and sympathy between the Islamic Republic of Iran's nation and government and nations who have been the victims of the aggression of hegemonistic powers.

Another part of the president's remarks, in connection with the long-standing attachment and common features between the people of Iran and Afghanistan and the geographical position of Afghanistan, says:

Because of those deep and long-standing links and also because of the Islamic Republic's Islamic and humanitarian responsibility, we could not witness efforts for the annihilation of the Islamic spirit and culture of Afghan society and, ultimately, for taking that country into the sphere of the superpowers. The imposition of a puppet government and direct interference, especially in a country possessing Islamic traditions and culture, was obviously not a development toward which we could remain indifferent. For that reason, we gave a positive response to the call of our Afghan brothers and we helped them to the extent we could, which, in view of matters arising from the imposed war, could not be limitless. And we will continue to do so. Despite economic problems as a result of the war and the economic siege of arrogant governments, we accepted about 2 million Afghan guests who sought refuge with us from the misfortunes of war.

In another section of the message, the president refers to the circumstances in which the conference is held, and says: The conference is being held in circumstances under which the Afghan issue has entered a new phase. Interfering foreigners encountered the miraculous Islamic resistance of the Afghan people and accepted defeat; they admitted the disgraceful mistakes of the former leadership. While establishing a great victory for the Afghan mujahidin, the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan has also been a source of positive development in the region and throughout the world. On the regional level, on the one hand, new possibilities for detente have been brought about and, on the other hand, the circumstances for interference by Western and Eastern powers have become more limited.

In another part of the message, the president stresses cooperation and mutual assistance between all the people of Afghanistan in confronting (?foreign invaders), and says:

Although, with the withdrawal of Soviet soldiers, the necessary precondition for the comprehensive and final resolution of the Afghan issue has been achieved, nevertheless, the realization of other conditions are also necessary, one of the most important of which is the recognition of the Afghan nation's right to self-determination; the realization of which will be made possible if all countries, especially Western and Eastern powers, end their interferences in Afghan affairs and give the Afghan people the chance to determine their own future.

In conclusion, the president stresses that pure Islam is the only factor which can guarantee—over ethnic, tribal, and sectarian sentiments—the national unity, territorial integrity, independence, and pride of the Afghan nation, and says: We want to have an independent, Islamic, and

nonaligned Afghanistan, which has good ties with its neighbors, on our eastern borders. We stress the maintenance of Afghanistan's territorial integrity and the right of that country's people to determine their own government free from all foreign interference and, toward that end, we will not refrain from extending any assistance which is requested from us.

Yaqub Khan Greets Seminar

LD0210131689 Tehran IRNA in English 1103 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 2, IRNA—Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan in a message to the 2nd international seminar on Afghanistan, opened here Monday morning said, "Iran and Pakistan have been in the forefront of the countries that supported restoration of national and individual rights of their Afghan brethren."

Further in his message which was read by Pakistani Ambassador to Tehran Tanvir Ahmad Khan, Yaqub Khan stressed that "Tehran and Islamabad will continue to work in close consultations... to bring about an early political settlement, acceptable to the people of Afghanistan."

"I hope that the deliberation of the seminar will produce constructive ideas acceptable to the Afghan people which could help to bring about an early and just political settlement," the Pakistani minister said in the message.

The three-day seminar opened at the Foreign Ministry's Center for Political and International Studies Monday morning with participation of many Afghan leaders, Iranian and foreign analysts.

Velayati Addresses Meeting

LD0210141189 Tehran IRNA in English 1130 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 2, IRNA—Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati addressing the 2nd international seminar on Afghanistan said here Monday that Iran has made it clear that recognizing U.S. role in Afghanistan contradicts interests of Afghan Muslim people. He added that any such development would indicate dependence of Islamic Jihad of Afghan people on foreign powers stressing that the Islamic Jihad owes its respect to its independence.

Further in his address to the 3-day international seminar on Afghanistan, he said, "Future of Afghanistan does not depend on a certain person or group; rather the Afghan nation which has suffered a great deal should decide the country's fate."

Velayati expressed the hope that Afghan refugees would return to their homeland with dignity and that they would not allow another foreign power to replace the occupying Soviet troops.

Present in the open session were Sebghatullah Mojaddedi president of the Afghan interim government, Burhanuddin Rabbani minister of reconstruction of the interim government, former Pakistani Foreign Minister Aqa Shahi, special envoy of U.N. Secretary General Emracora, leader of Pakistani Shia Muslims Sajid 'Ali Naqavi, Mawlawi Mansur Nasrullah, Khurshid Ahmad, Qazi Amin, Walid Junblatt of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, leader of the Tawhid Movement Nabih Birri.

Velayati on Afghan Situation

LD0210183289 Tehran IRNA in English 1532 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 2, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said on the Afghan crisis Monday that "it was not fair to separate the military solution from the political one."

Velayati, briefing foreign reporters at the 2nd international seminar on Afghanistan, said that the Kabul regime while chanting slogans in favor of a political solution to the issue, is busy equipping itself and embarking on military actions.

On Iran's stance on the issue, Velayati said "we have never backed down from our revolutionary and Islamic stands whatever the circumstances... I can assure you that we have never compromise with the Kabul regime, nor have we met any of its representatives."

Asked on the type of solution for the issue, the Iranian foreign minister replied that it soley rests with the Afghan Muslims to set forth a solution acceptable to them.

In response to another question as to why certain mujahidin factions were not present at the seminar, Velayati said that leaders of all mujahidin groups had been invited to the meeting, several of whom are here in person while others have sent a representative. Furthermore, Velayati said, since the Afghan issue concerned the Islamic world as a whole, Muslim groups from other countries have also been invited to the seminar.

The seminar opened today morning with a speech from President Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

In related news, the Soviet Second Secretary to Tehran Mikhail Pashkov told IRNA today that "Moscow favors a peaceful settlement of the Afghan issue and wants Afghanistan to be independent, Islamic and non-aligned having friendly relations with its neighbors." He said both Tehran and Moscow shared a similar view in this regard which had already been made known in their joint statements. On a solution to the current crisis in Afghanistan, Pashkov said that instead of fratricide, all mujahidin groups had better negotiate a coalition government with the Kabul regime.

Velayati Views Seminar's Objective

LD0210191989 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] At the conclusion of today's session of the Afghanistan seminar, Foreign Minister Dr Velayati, attended a news conference and answered various questions.

[Unidentified correspondent] Dr Velayati, we are here to observe the Afghanistan seminar and, in addition to the struggling Afghan groups, there are some Lebanese and Iraqi groups participating. What is your evaluation of Afghanistan's problem and the unity among the struggling groups?

[Velayati] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The objective of this seminar is to try to bring closer various groups and parties interested in the Afghanistan issue, and to create further solidarity between the mujahidin and Muslims of our brother country, Afghanistan. It is also to try and solve the difficulties of the oppressed people of Afghanistan. Of course, it is not the business of the Islamic Republic to make any decision on behalf of the people of Afghanistan about their difficulty, or to supervise their actions; rather, we help them to solve their own problems. Of course, as you mentioned, a group of dignitaries, personalities, and heads of the struggling Muslims from Iraq, Palestine, and Lebanon are also present at this seminar. The most inportant aspect of these dear brothers' presence at this seminar is their declaration of practical solidarity with the struggle of the Muslim people of Afghanistan, and the fact that they wish to declare they stand beside the Afghan people and will assist them as an important part of the Islamic world.

Mujahidin Leaders Comment

LD0210200289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] On the sidelines of the international seminar reviewing the problems of Afghanistan, Mr Sebghatullah Mojadeddi, leader of the National Liberation Front and head of the interim cabinet of the Afghan mujahidin's seven-party alliance, and Mr Muhammad Karim Khalili, a member of the eight-party alliance of the Afghan mujahidin, held separate news conferences, which were attended by domestic and foreign correspondents, and answered questions. Mr Mojadeddi and Mr Khalili stressed the need to continue the struggle of the Afghan mujahidin forces until their demands are realized. They also rejected any talks with the Afghanistan regime, but did not rule out the possibility of finding a political solution to the problems of Afghanistan.

Mr Mojadeddi said: We are not opposed to a political solution, but this solution should answer the blood of 1 and ½ million martyrs and 5 to 6 million Afghan refugees and homeless. While rejecting the inclination of the Afghan mujahidin toward the West, and while referring to the Afghan nation's past record of seeking independence, Mr Mojadeddi said: We have always defended our independence and the assistance received by the Afghan mujahidin from the West and other countries has been unconditional. He added that propaganda by Najibullah's regime seeking to win the support and cooperation of the Afghan people has had no effect. While accepting the possibility of holding an international conference on solving the problem of Afghanistan, he rejected the possibility of the Afghan mujahidin taking part in a conference with representatives of Afghanistan's present government. He said: Our struggle will continue until the collapse of the regime in Afghanistan.

Rabbani Addresses Session

LD0210202189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] During this afternoon's session of the second international seminar on the Afghanistan situation, Mr Burhanuddin Rabbani, leader of the Islamic Society of Afghanistan, referring to the reasons for the lack of a speedy advance by the mujahidin in the battle against government forces, said that at present the mujahidin forces are on the offensive and the enemy is in a defensive position. Militarily, we have not been defeated; victories still continue. The mujahidin have high combat skills.

Stressing the fact that all groups must be involved in the determination of the future of Afghanistan, he said: We declare we will not, under any circumstances, permit the Kabul regime to sit alongside the nation in any gathering. They are alienated from the nation.

Referring to foreign interference in the affairs of Afghanistan, particularly by the United States, he said: If the United States interferes in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, we shall fight against that form of aggression with the same weapon we used to fight the Soviet Union.

He stressed that the Muslim people of Afghanistan are free and independent and will not permit any violation of Afghanistan's territorial integrity.

Concerning the reconstruction of Afghanistan, he said: Reconstruction is one of the basic issues in our revolution. We must resist economic dependence and make Afghanistan economically independent. For that reason, we have urgent need of the experience of Islamic countries, especially the Islamic Republic. We call on all Islamic countries to play a bigger role in the reconstruction of Afghanistan.

Later in the session, Mr (Hashemi-Lolanchi) from Afghanistan, made a speech about Western Europe and Afghanistan.

Karrubi Meets Lebanese Islamic Group Leaders

LD0110171489 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Text] Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], Ahmad Jibril, and Shaykh Subhi Tufayli of

the Islamic and resistance movements of Lebanon, today met with the Majlis Speaker Karrubi. In this meeting Karrubi, emphasizing the long-standing support of the imam [Khomeyni] may his soul be sanctified, and of the Islamic revolution, for the people of Palestine, expressed confidence that in Iran, all the officials and the people support the people of Palestine and the Shiites of Lebanon. Stressing the point that conspiracies against Palestine are gaining more roots, day by day, he said: This issue is a sign that the Islamic revolution is becoming more deeply rooted in the region and the world, and for this reason, the enemy too, has further expanded the dimensions of its instigations and plots. The Majlis speaker emphasized: A nation which, thanks to God's grace, has acted upon its duties and is continuing its own path, cannot be held back along this path by any conspiracy or other obstacle.

Lebanese Leaders Birri, Junblatt Arrive 1 Oct

NC0210073489 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Messrs Nabih Birri, minister of justice, and Walid Junblatt, minister of public works and transport, arrived in Tehran last night and were welcomed at Mehrabad Airport by Messrs Sa'idi-Kya and Shushtari, our country's ministers of road and transport and of justice.

In an interview with our correspondent, Mr Walid Junblatt, Lebanon's minister of public works and transport, said he is visiting Iran to hold talks with the officials of the Islamic Republic. Referring to the Lebanese deputies' meeting in al-Ta'if, he said: We have propounded our plan to the conference as the national forces of Lebanon and stated our views on political reforms.

Commenting on the outcome of the al-Ta'if conference, he said: We can predict nothing. We will wait for the results of the conference. If the results agree with the requests of Lebanon's national and Islamic faction and if our proposed political reforms are accepted, we can state that Lebanon will enter a new phase of peace and calm. If not, then the war will continue.

Lebanon's Justice Minister Nabih Birri also spoke to our correspondent and said: In these difficult times when Lebanon is going through a sensitive phase in its history, it is natural for us to come to the hearth of Islam and of the Islamic revolution in order to discuss the future of Lebanon and of the region with our brothers in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Amal Organization leader then commented on the al-Ta'if conference: We have stated our position and on the basis of this position, we voice strong opposition to the tripartite Arab committee's plan for solving the Lebanese crisis. This plan does not conform with Muslim ideals and objectives and is actually premised on factional concessions that led to Lebanon's division. Therefore, we, as the front of Lebanon's Islamic and national forces, have opposed it and have proposed a new plan which calls for the abrogation of factional concessions and the formation of a new system based on justice and equality for all citizens.

Discuss Lebanon With Velayati

NC0310091989 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 3 Oct 89

[Text] Nabih Birri, leader of the Amal Movement and Lebanon's justice minister, met with our foreign minister yesterday. The Central News Unit reports that during this meeting the latest developments in the Lebanese problem and the decisions adopted by the Arab tripartite committee were discussed. It was also emphasized that a solution must be found which will guarantee true reforms and take into consideration the right of the majority of the Lebanese.

The report states that Birri and Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party of Lebanon, met jointly with Mr Velayati yesterday afternoon. During this meeting Junblatt stated: We believe what is happening in al-Ta'if is a lull in hostilities in order to give the Maronites the opportunity to reorganize their forces. Lebanon's Muslim and national forces should, with the coordination of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Syria, form a united front vis-a-vis the aggressive acts by the Zionist regime, Arab reaction, and its domestic allies in Lebanon, who are pursuing the plan for Lebanon's division.

Birri stated: No solution will be fruitful unless it changes the oppressive factional system in Lebanon and provides for the rights of the majority of the Lebanese people. Strong cooperation by the Islamic and national forces of Lebanon is the only thing that can ensure radical reforms. He added: The Iraqi regime has carried out its subversive role in the destruction and division of Lebanon by sending arms to the illegal Michel 'Awn regime.

During this meeting Mr Velayati stressed that the Islamic and national forces must be alert in confronting the plots by the Zionists and their domestic hirelings. He said they should form a strong and united front of anti-Zionist forces, and expressed the Islamic Republic's support for these forces. He added: The only way the current crisis can be solved is by ending the occupation of Lebanese territory by the Zionist enemy, ensuring the rights of the majority and the sovereignty of the Lebanese people, and preserving Lebanon's territorial integrity.

Meet With Velayati

LD0310101289 Tehran IRNA in English 0845 GMT 3 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 3, IRNA—Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati here Monday chaired the first meeting of the six-member committee of the Islamic and national forces of Lebanon and Palestine discussing the latest developments in these areas.

The decisions made in the recent meeting of 21 Lebanese and Palestinian Islamic and national groups held in Damascus were raised in the meeting also attended by Syrian Charge d'Affairs Ahmad Zino [name as received].

Pledging Iran's full support for the campaign of national and Islamic forces, Velayati said that due to increased foreign intervention in Lebanon the situation has become more complicated.

However, close Iran-Syria ties, the continued resistance of Lebanese national and Islamic forces and Islamic uprising of the Palestinian Muslims will prevent enemies from destroying the rights of the Muslims.

Stressing further unity of the Islamic and national forces, the committee members pledged to continue the campaign until rooting out of the tribal system in Lebanon and establishment of a just system based on the rights of majority. They would also counter ways ensuring survival of political Maronite [as received].

The committee members stressed their support for the Palestinian Islamic uprising until the annihilation of the usurper Zionist regime.

The six-member committee includes leader of Islamic Tawhid movement of Lebanon Sa'id Sha'ban, member of the Council for Revolutionary Movement of Hizballah Subhi al-Tufayli, leader of Amal Movement Nabih Birri, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party Walid Junblatt, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [General Command] Ahmad Jibril and leader of the Revolutionary Fatah Abu-Musa.

In a related development, Junblatt and Birri met with Velayati Monday afternoon.

On the recent meeting of Lebanese parliamentarians in al-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia, Junblatt said that it aimed at halting the hostilities as to allow the Maronite forces to reorganise their forces.

Junblatt stressed the necessity of forming a unified front of the Islamic and national forces of Lebanon in coordination with Iran and Syria to stand against aggressions of the Zionist regime, Arab reactionary governments and their allies in Lebanon, all of whom work to disintegrate Lebanon.

On present situation in Lebanon, Birri said that no solution would be productive, unless the tribal system is abolished and the rights of the majority are respected. He also criticized Iraq for providing the illegal regime of Michel 'Awn with armaments.

Meanwhile the Lebanese leaders held separate meetings with Velayati Monday discussing latest developments in Lebanon.

Birri also met with Justice Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Shushtari here Monday and discussed issues of mutual interest.

IRNA Cites Dailies on Al-Ta'if Meeting

LD0110120489 Tehran IRNA in English 1125 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 1, IRNA—Two morning dailies Sunday [1 October] stressed in their editorials that the al-Ta'if meeting of the Lebanese members of Parliament or any similar meets was doomed to be a failure if it did not consider the rights of the majority of Lebanese people.

The first session of Lebanese Parliamentarians outside Lebanon was held in al-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia Saturday attended by 66 out of 73 Muslim and Christian members of the Parliament. The meeting titled "National Reconciliation" is the second stage of a seven-point peace plan drawn up by the three-nation committee of the Arab League to end the bloodshed and reconcile Lebanon's feuding factions.

The English daily TEHRAN TIMES said that choosing al-Ta'if as the venue of the meeting, by itself showed that some countries including Saudi Arabia wanted to "gain greater influence in Lebanon".

"It is solely an announcement of the presence of Saudi Arabia in Lebanon," the daily stressed.

TEHRAN TIMES stressed that the Saudi regime tried to prevent the meeting's failure in order to utilize it politically. Referring to the Iraq-Egypt announcement of support for the Christian militia leader Michel 'Awn following the last week summit meet of the Arab Cooperation Council, the daily recommended Iran and Syria to cooperate closely against the plots and conspiracies of other regional countries in Lebanon.

"Since the presence of the Syrians in Lebanon is for the purpose of struggle against the sovereignty and rule of the Maronites and preservation of national and Islamic rights of the people of Lebanon, the results of the al-Ta'if meeting will be condemned to failure if they do not provide for the rights of the majority of the Lebanese people," said the English daily.

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI questioned the choice of the meeting's venue saying that it aimed at ending the 15-year old civil war in Lebanon under the supervision of the U.S. and the Zionist regime. Revolutionary and Muslim forces were dissatisfied with the presence of Saudi Arabia and Morocco in the plan from the very beginning and the announcement of the meeting's venue intensified their doubt about the nature of the plan.

The daily stressed that when the U.S. expressed satisfaction with the trend of events, there remained no doubt that the Arab League's peace plan was in fact aimed at carrying out a mission on the order of the U.S. Of course the results of the meeting are not clear yet but there are indications of a creeping conspiracy, said the daily.

The pro-U.S. faction in Lebanon tried to overshadow incidents in that country through the presence of Syrian

forces there while no word was said about the presence of the Zionist forces in southern Lebanon, it added.

The root of clashes in Lebanon lies in the political role of the Maronites, said the daily adding that the Lebanese people have one goal for their struggle—the right to decide their own destiny based on the vote of the majority.

Italian Charge Summoned to Foreign Ministry

LD2909150689 Tehran IRNA in English 0705 GMT 29 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 29, IRNA—Italy's charge d'affaires here was summoned to the Foreign Ministry Thursday, in the absence of the Italian ambassador, to give some explanations regarding a pledge of support by Italian parliamentarians for the outlawed Mojahedin-e Khalq Organisation (MKO).

Foreign Ministry Director General for Western Europe Hoseyn Musavian told the Italian diplomat that moves of these kind, including Italy's 2 bn dollar loan to Iraq as well as its involvement in supply of Condor II missiles to the Baghdad regime, will leave negative impacts in the trend of economic and political relations between the two countries.

Over 200 members of the Italian Parliament have reportedly sent a letter to the Italian prime minister urging him to extend support to the banned Iranian political group (MKO). A similar move was made by a group of U.S. Congressmen last month which was later disgracefully withdrawn.

The Italian charge d'affaires expressed regret over the call by the Italian MP's [members of Parliament] and said the Italian Government's official stance is to maintain friendly and extensive ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran. He cited the visit of the Italian deputy foreign trade minister to Tehran and the meeting of the Italian foreign minister with his Iranian counterpart at the U.N. in New York this week as a proof to his claim.

Editorial Criticizes Yazdi's Remarks on Cooper

NC0110135089 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 26 Sep 89 pp 1, 10

[Editorial: "Regarding Roger Cooper"]

[Text] Yesterday, the wife of Roger Cooper, the British spy imprisoned in Tehran, saw him and then wrote to the Judiciary, thanking the Iranian officials for granting her permission to meet him in his prison cell. In that letter she asked to meet and speak with the head of the Judiciary and was given permission for 2 days later.

This has a humanitarian and Islamic aspect which reveals the beautiful visage of Islam in stark contrast to the ugly and bestial treatment the British police and judicial authorities gave only a few days ago to Kurosh Fuladi, who was released after 10 years imprisonment in the medieval British dungeons without even a single day taken off his sentence. This clearly reveals the savage face of the British regime.

In collusion with the treacherous Pahlavi regime, Roger Cooper committed treason against the Iranian nation and confessed to espionage against the Islamic Republic. However, his health is good in the Islamic Republic's prison and he is permitted to meet his wife. In comparison, the British police arrested the 16-year-old Kurosh Fuladi on a false charge, threw him into prison, and brutally tortured him. As a result his hand is paralyzed and he is blind in one eye. For 10 years he was not permitted to meet his brother or mother even once. The British judicial authorities were not willing to talk about the date of his release. Even after his release they would not confirm or deny the fact!

This is an outstanding example of the democracy and human rights the British Government pays lip service to, and the treatment given to Roger Cooper in the Islamic Republic of Iran is considered a violation of human rights by these very false proponents of human rights.

Let us move ahead from this segment of the incident to the meeting between the head of the Judiciary and Roger Cooper's wife. According to an IRNA report (published in this very newspaper), the Judiciary head said that "the possibility of Cooper's pardon by the leadership is not being discounted and as a human being I hope that he will be given an Islamic pardon."

Our people's reaction to the first part of the news report differs from their reaction to the latter part. The opinion and optimism of the esteemed head of the Judiciary is to be respected, but we consider it necessary to mention to him that despite their deference to his opinion and to him, people are not very happy that the country's highest judicial authority hopes for a pardon for Roger Cooper as soon as possible. Last night a report in the JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI newspaper to this effect created greay amazement, and this is merely a sample of what the general public reaction is.

Islam has taught us that "arrogance before the arrogant is tantamount to worship." To people such as the British echelons who have never treated the Islamic revolution and its hallowed system with anything except arrogance, Pharaonism, and self-conceit, showing arrogance would be an act of worship. It was for this very reason that our dear imam, may God be pleased with him, had exhorted the people not to let their revolutionary fury wane against the Americans, British, and all domineering and world-devouring powers and to maintain it in their hearts.

No one wishes to overrule what the Judiciary has decided about or ordered for this British spy, or to overrule his sentence. But neither do they expect even the slightest concessions for him, especially in light of the Salman Rushdie affair and the British Government's insults to Islam, as well as in view of the British police and judicial authorities' brutality to Kurosh Fuladi.

TEHRAN TIMES Comments on Bush's UN Speech

NC0310090689 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 30 Sep 89 p 2

[Editorial: "Bush Call To Eliminate Chemical Weapons—the Ideal and the Reality"]

[Text] Last week's call by U.S. President George Bush for a mutual elimination of 30 percent of chemical arms stockpiles by the United States and Soviet Union at the United Nations General Assembly, is certainly very laudable. But is he truly sincere in his desire to initiate the first moves with intent to eliminate chemical weapons in the world altogether?

It would seem that President Bush was merely using the occasion to give the United States a "human face" as it were and to appear to be veering away from the dogmatic Reaganism of his predecessor. He has been at doing this [as published] with regard to his Central American policies too. One has to be careful not to fall into the trap of accepting the deception that all this means a sudden and abrupt transition to a benevolent and benign America that has given up its desire for dominance and suzerainty in the world. All it means is a phase in time to suit prevailing circumstances, compellingly thrust on President Bush to accord with slight changes in U.S. foreign policy.

Let us take a brief look at the facts that show up a different picture more fitting the realities. Chemical weapons were used on a massive scale in the First World War and the horrors were such as to result in the 1925 Geneva Conventions forbidding the use of such lethal and unfair weapons during wars between countries.

When World War II, a war on a much vaster and horrendous scale, was waged the parties to the conflict refrained from chemical weapons use. Not even a desperate Hitler chose to use the cheap but sordid weapon in his megalomaniac desire to gain the world at any price whatever. As a matter of fact, it was Iraq which flagrantly began using chemical weapons in its war against Iran killing not only Iranian civilians but its own civilian Kurdish populations in Halabjah in March 1988, ruthlessly decimating over 5,000 Kurdish men, women and children in a matter of a few minutes. No one can deny that Iraq could have used chemical weapons on such a large scale if it did not have the green light from the superpowers.

Today again Iraq is busy producing and stockpiling lethal chemical weapons with the connivance and help of Eastern European military attaches in that country and Western experts directly involved in the technology of production. With their highly sophisticated intelligence networks and other links to the Iraqi regime, it is difficult to believe that both the United States and the Soviet Union are unaware of what is going on. But what are they doing to stop the madness?

In the face of all this, how can we afford to believe that the U.S. president's offer to eliminate a good part of U.S. chemical stockpiles means anything more than pious pretension and not a genuine intention to act in the interests of a larger world peace.

Khamene'i Announces New Appointments

LD0110164389 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Text] His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution and commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on the proposal of Firuzabadi, chief of the General Staff Command of the Armed Forces [ra'is-e setad-e farmandehi-ye koll-e niruha-ye mosallah], today, in separate edicts, appointed Mohammad Foruzandeh; Gholam 'Ali Rashid; Hoseyn Amir Mo'ayed; Brigadier General 'Ali Seyyed Shirazi, and Lieutenant Brigadier General [sartip dovvom] Mohammad Baqer Khoshnevisan, respectively, acting chief of the General Staff Command of the Armed Forces and deputy for logistics and industrial research; deputy for intelligence and operations; deputy for planning, programs, and budget; deputy for the Inspectorate [bazrasi]; and the deputy for the workforce of the General Staff Command of the Armed Forces.

Cabinet Approves New Governors General

LD0110190589 Tehran IRNA in English 1750 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 1, IRNA—The cabinet in its today's session approved a proposal by the interior minister to appoint Mahmud Hojjati, Gholamreza Sahra'iyan and 'Ali Sufi as governors general of Sistan va Baluchestan, Bushehr and Kohkiluyeh va Buyer Ahmadi Provinces respectively. The cabinet also lauded the services of the former governors general of the said provinces. President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani presided over the session.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Gives Friday Prayers Sermons

LD2909182989 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1130 GMT 29 Sep 89

[Friday prayers sermons delivered by President Hashemi-Rafsanjani at Tehran University on 29 September—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The prophet was very insistent to ensure that the feeling should not gain strength among the people to imagine that an Islamic society should be a poor society. The prophet knew very well that the main resource of an Islamic society should be a poor society. The prophet knew very well that the main resource of an Islamic society, more than anything else, is work and human resources. Whenever he felt that work was being hampered, the performance of work was being hampered, the value of work was being hampered, the value of an active person was being hampered, the prophet became very sensitive regarding these matters

and prevented these things from happening, at times by means of general statements and at other times by referring to particular cases.

The prophet's description about those human beings who had the ability to produce was this: God loves a believing individual who has a profession [preceding phrase in Arabic]; anyone who has a profession, a technical worker, a technician, an engineer, a doctor; any person who has an expertise in providing a service for the society. God loves such a person if he is a believer. If a person is both a believer and a professional, he is one of God's favorite servants. [passage omitted]

When it comes to an individual, the prophet says: Happy is the man who is a Muslim, whose livelihood is sufficient for him and whose strength is ample. [preceding phrase in Arabic] The prophet mentions three attributes which ensure man's happiness, a person who is a Muslim, a person who has worked hard enough and has ensured his material wellbeing, and who also enjoys physical strength. Spiritual wellbeing, material wellbeing, and having sufficient means to live are sources of happiness for an individual or for a family, in the prophet's view. This is what we call a program for life. It is completely wrong and it is an injustice to Islam to imagine that a Muslim should be a useless, lazy person, but a person who says his nightly prayers, or who only studies, and so on. The prophet did not at all like a person who had the bearings of a pious Muslim, but who had those difficulties in his life, who did not work hard for his living, or did not take care of his own health. The prophet described life as a totality. [passage omitted] A large part of the prophet's remarks concern the evils of poverty. Of course, there are also many remarks about the evils of wealth. Both of them are good in their own place. But wealth that might make a person deviate from his path and lead him toward an inhuman direction—something which happens to many of the wealthy—is condemned. Also, poverty which defeats a person, destroys the morale of a person, forces him to be needy, crushes an individual's dignity, and subjugates him to other material powers, and this is something that always comes about as a result of poverty in individuals, families, and societies that lose their dignity, something that was strongly condemned by the prophet, lest the Muslims through their laziness leave the field open to the infidels and put the unbelievers in charge of economic affairs. [passage omitted]

We should eliminate such thinking [that material things do not matter] 100 percent from our Islamic society. Today, if you look throughout the Islamic world you will see that Muslim countries are faced with the same difficulty, that they are weaker from an economic point of view than the infidels. Their natural resources are not less, their ability is not less, and this is not something prescribed by the Koran, nor by God. Why then has this come about? This is a deviation from Islam. We should act in this way [to work hard] as a duty, not merely for our own personal wellbeing. If this thought is taken seriously in our society, if a Muslim thinks that just as it is enjoined on him to say his prayers, then he is also dutybound to improve the economy of his society and exploit natural resources for that society. If this thinking had been prevalent throughout our society, Islamic society would not be as it is today. The same sanctity which we attach to the mosques, to the Ka'bah, to the recitation of the Koran, to praying, to the rites and rituals of religion, in the minds of the Muslims do we also have the same feeling of sanctity regarding the economic issues of the society, or not? Had we thought like that, society, Iran, and the whole Islamic world would have had the upper hand, and we should have the upper hand.

After the prophet's time, as the result of these teachings—teachings which were lacking in Iran and the Roman Empire—Islamic civilization controlled the world for a number of centuries. It was not only mosques, prayers, the Ka'bah and so on; Islamic economy was in the ascendance, world commerce was in the hands of Islam, God's borders were in the hands of Islam, the universities of the world were in the hands of the Muslims, and the books of Islam were taken all over the world to be translated. All these were due to the fact that at that time the Muslims regarded Islam as a religion of living. Gradually, mysticism and superficial piety took the place of all those things and now we are faced with these difficulties. The prophet used to say: Poverty is the source of shame in this world and the next [preceding phrase in Arabic followed by Persian translation], especially deliberate poverty not imposed poverty. [passage omitted]

You should know that anybody who is needy will not be independent. Anyone who does not work cannot remain honorable. Anyone who is poor—maybe an exceptional person can safeguard himself in poverty—as a whole cannot safeguard himself. A poor society will be degraded in the face of rich societies. At the moment you can see why is it that the communists of the world have stretched their hands toward the capitalists of the world. Why does Poland humiliate itself so that the Americans may give her some wheat, bread, or sugar? So that they may get out of their economic crisis? I have no respect for Marxist ideology. In fact, this ideology is the source of their misery. I am not talking about their ideology [as heard]. I neither accept their ideology, nor Western ideology. However, today when Hungary, in order to attract the United States' attention, extends the hand of friendship toward Israel, this is due to economic necessity. The fact that Poland changes her ideology to attract the attention of the Western world is based on economic needs and financial crises. The greatest political powers of today's world due to the same poverty and need have been forced to give up what they followed for years because they cannot run their own lives. This poverty is destroying every aspect of their lives. But those who worked in the world and who have an upper hand are imposing their ideals on others.

The Koran does not wish the Muslims to experience such a day. The Koran has predicted that if we do not act in

accordance with the instructions to exploit natural resources, if we ignore this clear instruction, if we pay attention to Rise up to pray, but ignore Traverse in the tracts of the earth and make use of its sustenance [Koranic verse], this is a distorted understanding of Islam and it will lead Islamic societies into wrong directions. Unfortunately, this has already happened. Islam freed the world and enabled it to flourish, but the Muslims are now grappling with economic problems and have to stretch their hands toward powerful, rich, un-Islamic countries to solve their problems. There is no need for me to mention the names of those countries, most of them are like that.

We should instill this thought in our Islamic society, our young people, and our children from the beginning to the end, in young and old and men and women, that if they are Muslims according to the decrees of the Koran, they are dutybound to work hard to strengthen their economic wellbeing and improve their material life. This will be regarded as devotion and may be used for their spiritual growth. [passage omitted]

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted] There are a number of domestic and global issues which I would like to discuss in my second sermon, but since the first sermon became very lengthy, I am not sure whether I will be able to delve into all these issues or not.

My prime concern in the second sermon is to present a report on the situation in the country, to our honorable people. Since taking on the responsibility of the Presidency, I have not had the chance to present that report because I have been busy tryirg to compile for you a report on the current situation in the country, and the solutions which have come to my mind to resolving the country's problems. I will now bring to your attention a semicompiled report, and, God willing, I will elaborate more fully at the next opportunity. I consider it the prerogative of the people to be informed about the country's conditions and events. Most of my sermon is devoted to the economic field and living conditions. Part of it is on political and other issues, but ultimately it all reverts back to the same subject.

Thus far we in the cabinet have devoted the major part of our time to the issue of planning, so that our 5-year plan will be in accordance with the future conditions, and soon we will be presenting the Majlis with the end results. Of course, the plan was already presented to the Majlis in the past and was approved in preliminary consultations. We in the Majlis, however, agreed that the Cabinet should prepare the plan for a second consultation with regard to the new post-war conditions, which means they should prepare figures, charts, expenditure, projects, and sources of income in accordance with the new conditions. The former Cabinet had already prepared all that, but before it was approved, that Cabinet ended its term, and the present Cabinet is now reviewing what was prepared by the former Cabinet so that it may present the figures and charts—in other words the auditing section—to the Majlis. God willing, this will be done in the next 1 or 2 weeks. I will elaborate on these plans in my economic discussion.

Regarding politics, the Islamic Republic has gone through the very arduous era of post-revolution predicament: the austere blockades of the imperialists, the unfair war which was imposed on us by the satanic powers that stood behind the enemy until the end of the war, as well as other events, such as the domestic discord which they provoked, and the revolts which they masterminded, like terrorism. The Islamic Republic managed to establish its political position in the world, which means that from a political standpoint our feeling is more or less that our enemies achieved no results from the policy they were pursuing, and did not wish to repeat the past conditions. They realized that the more pressure they applied, the more fortified the revolution inside and outside this society became. Thus, apparently, they are no longer pursuing the already experienced paths and such offensives do not exist any longer. A sense of tranquillity is visible on the global level most of which, however, is related to general international conditions. At present, the prevailing spirit in the world is that of eschewing tension. As you can see, the United States and the USSR, which were the two focal points of such tensions, are now reaching agreement on many issues. They have begun to annihilate dangerous weapons, and recently they are moving to an agreement on chemical weapons which are the worst kinds of weapons.

They are appeasing the situation in Afghanistan and in Lebanon. Efforts are being made in Palestine, but is not yet clear what the outcome will be. It seems that on the whole international conditions are against tension. Naturally, if tension is to be avoided, the Middle East, specifically the Persian Gulf, are among the most significant areas on which the world's tranquillity depend. If there is tension instead of tranquillity there, then no calm will exist elsewhere. Therefore, the political position is not the same as before.

Regarding the issue of war, the way we assess it, our enemy and our direct opponent which is Iraq has no longer the capability to resume war. Now, after months have elapsed, it is just beginning—its community's body having become frozen after the war—to feel the agonies and wounds of the war period, and of the warmongering which it directly kindled under the provocation of the others. Consider the debts and havoc which it left behind, its shortcomings, its POW's, the many lives which it took, the families who have become bereaved, the plight created in the north—in Kurdistan—which has rendered so many people homeless, and the havoc which it wreaked in the villages around the borders and Kurdistan, which were the source of the country's subsistence. An amalgamation of these conditions—bearing in mind the highly burdensome debts which it extorted from others in the course of the war and in the name of war—which it can no longer extort—have caught up with Iraq. Moreover, it has tasted war and learnt its consequences. It no longer has the capability of resuming

war, and we have no inclination to resume the war. We did not want the war in the first place, and in those days when we continued the war, we were under the impression that the world did not wish to see an end to this war, and that if we accepted [a ceasefire], they would continue their attacks by destroying the spirit of our people. We kept alive the epic of combat in our people's hearts in order to consolidate our defense until we reached the point where the enemy became despondent of ever attaining any results from the war—or rather, the enemies, as Iraq had already become despondent, and it was necessary for Iraqi supporters to become despondent and they did.

We have no wish to resume the war. Iraq has not the capability to do so. We consider the possibility of a resumption of war to be very weak; but we consider it weak due to our potency. If, for example, our enemies sense that we have become weak from within—that our army is weak, our Guard Corps is weak, or that our people may not participate in the war, or that we have no weapons—if they give way to such feelings, then the possibility of the resumption of war exists. Therefore, while we are not involved in war and consider a resumption unlikely, nevertheless, we have preserved remainders [as heard] from the war. This means that we should deploy part of the country's resources which, if confident [of an end to the war], we could use toward the provision of economic development and welfare projects for the people, and toward strengthening our military forces, through whose fortification we will become confident that the war will not recur. This is something which we are doing. A state of neither war nor peace exists: This means we have a number of Armed Forces that would not exist in peace time. We are spending to keep them at the fronts.

We are also spending part of our resources for reinforcing the military, especially for manufacturing weapons and military research. All this is something which is a remnant of the war for us. However, it will give us a kind of certainty that clashes on the battlefields will not resume. Of course, there may always be the odd incident, but it will not have any meaning. It seems we are moving toward greater security in the region. We can therefore make plans.

As I said, the 5-year plan was submitted to the Majlis several years ago; it is from the former period. Because of the war, however, we could not make a 5-year plan. A 5-year plan is appropriate for us when we can see 5 years ahead of us and say how much foreign exchange, how many rials, how much energy, how much of the country's resources we want to spend on those projects 5 years from now. Someone who is engaged in war cannot make such decisions 5 years hence. It is not at all clear what will happen in a war.

Therefore, the fact that we have taken the plan seriously now and that we are drawing it up is a sign of our certainty about the future. As for the conditions in the country, we do not have, just as you yourselves know better than anyone, any political problems. We have no political problems at all inside the country. In other words, our nation is uniformly behind the leadership. The government, the Majlis, executive organizations, and revolutionary institutions are single-minded in serving the revolution. Of course, we are not free from debates. Just as you see from the Majlis, from the Voice and Vision, from the press, different views on different issues can be observed. But that is good; it is not bad. Never be upset by the fact that you see a difference of opinion raised in the media about an issue. If they did not exist... [changes thought] It is a democratic exercise. That is a way of informing the people. It is a way of making the people feel their presence on the stage. The nature of democracy, freedom, and sovereignty of the people lies in this: The Majlis should be lively; the government should be lively; the press, different circles, universities must be lively. There must be debates, discussion, criticism. They must find faults so that they may be remedied. If we do not have those things, then we would have problems. God be praised, we do have it. On the whole, from the domestic point of view, we have a strong and secure situation and the conditions for working are suitable in the country.

What is a problem now for our country—according to our studies the most important problem—is the problem of high prices and inflation in the country. We are not worried about the future because the country, God be praised, is, from the point of view of natural resources, manpower, scientific talents, and international credit, such that we can easily predict that, after the implementation of one or two 5-year plans, the country's situation will move toward an acceptable state for the material life of the people. That, too, is not a problem.

For example, if those steel industries which we have under construction right now and for which we have paid a great deal of capital investment become operational, we will give five, six million tonnes of steel production to the people, produced from our own iron ore, our own lime, and our own natural gas. We already have one million and a bit more. That will become possible in the next 4 to 5 years. Or, for example, natural gas, which has reached a few places in the country now will reach nearly every corner in the country in the first and second 5-year plan. There is plenty of natural gas and it is such that with the burning oil—the oil that we now burn and which can be turned into foreign exchange, gold, and be returned to the nation and which is now going up in smoke as energy which you see being destroyed, with the natural gas which has been udnerneath our soil for 400, 500 years, for 600, 700 years—the country will become entirely strong from the point of view of fuel and energy. That is for the future.

We turn now to petrochemicals. With just the factories we have—not from new investment, just the ones we have now—during the next 4 or 5 years when they start producing, most of our country's factories, for which we now buy material from abroad with dollars and which work only at half strength, will be using petrochemicals

produced by ourselves, and the new factories which have been designed will work too. The future is truly good and bright.

The current problem is that high prices and inflation put pressure on the people's lives to a considerable extent, especially the deprived strata. For those who are well-off, high or low prices do not matter very much. They buy something in any case and their income is greater; if prices go up, their income increases.

Those who wish to have a healthy life, those who are not corrupt and wish to live on wages or salaries, are finding life difficult. I understand this and you all feel this. We must pursue these matters. I will discuss the roots and causes of this problem and mention some of the solutions. The main reason for the high prices can be seen in two or three points, which will be discussed now. Of course, if we were to discuss the details, it would be a very lengthy issue. The discussion requires one or two books. In a half hour sermon one can only touch upon a very complex picture. One of the reasons is low output. Our production does not really meet our people's needs; that is, if we live in normal circumstances and all the products were delivered to the public fairly, still we would not have enough to meet the people's needs. Our factories on average work 30 to 40 per cent below capacity; that is, some work less than the average figure, some higher. For instance, if we are supposed to weave 700 million square meters of cloth per year, we only weave 400 or 500 million square meters. If we are expected to manufacture one million bicycles, we only manufacture 300,000 to 400,000. I am only givilng some examples to state what the situation is. What is manufactured by the industries, therefore, does not meet the people's requirements.

We have the same problem in the agricultural sector. You can see the situation of our agriculture. We import millions of tonnes of wheat, hundreds of thousands of tonnes of rice, hundreds of thousands of tonnes of sugar, vegetable oil, corn, meat, butter, and cheese. The items that the people can afford by ration coupons are imported by petrodollars; that is, we sell oil and import these things. The distribution system, however, is bad; that is, the system introduced by the government during the war to manage the people's life is the worst method of managing the people. We, the government, currently purchase wheat from our country's farmers for 10 tumans per kilogram. On top of this figure we spend money to transport the wheat and store it in silos. On the other hand, we sell flour to bakeries for 1.2 tumans per kilogram. It is obvious that if one wishes to supply bread to 50 million people in this way, buying it for 10 tumans and selling for 1 tuman—after deducting the transport and storage costs—what the outcome will be. The sugar that we distribute among the people is the same. We buy the sugar from our own sugar mills. The real price that we pay in foreign currency [as heard] is 30 to 40 tumans [per kilogram]. We sell it to you at 27 rials [2.7 tumans] per kilogram through coupons. You see [the difference between the] the price of rice on the open market and by obtaining it with ration coupons provided by the government.

This method of running the country is only justifiable in war conditions; that is, if the government were to continue supporting the people in this way forever, it would not be a wise thing to do. Of course, the government does not pay the cost out of its own pocket. It is your pocket. The oil belongs to you. This dollar which is changed into rials and subsidizes the wheat for you from 10 to 1 tumans, is your money. At the same time, some people living in rural areas are not covered by this subsidy; that is, mainly the [urban] citizens buy bread from bakeries and this [rural people not being subsidized] in itself is unfair. Of course, if the government were to subsidize the bread in rural areas, this would be impossible to put into practice; that is, it cannot be done. The shortage thus is real. There is a serious shortage. We are importing wheat. Of course, if our 5-year plan is compleated properly, we will stop importing rice, wheat, and corn. All these items can be produced locally; fish, meat, and poultry too.

The second problem in the country is the problem of distribution; that is, the distribution method is not proper, and this was imposed on us by the war, too. What we have is not distributed properly either; that is, some people find easy access to these items, and some do not find them at all. The items which are distributed by the government ration coupons will reach the people sooner or later. The items which are not rationed, however, do not reach the people fairly. This stems from the faults in the distribution system, because it was not planned for the long term; it was a temporary measure, which should have reverted to the normal market situation, supply and demand, and the usual distribution systems available on the market. However, the reality is different; that is, there is difficulty within the distribution system and some sort of injustice is imposed on the people.

Another point in the distribution system is the problem of hoarders, profiteers, and their tyranny. This is also another part of our problems. It is the third problem. A large amount of cash flow is at the disposal of some people now. This huge figure of cash flow is a serious threat to the country's economy, because during the war the cash in circulation was not invested in manufacturing items. The country's money was either used in the war, which would find its way to the market and into people's hands, or we used it to buy foreign goods to be distributed among the people. The government ran a deficit in its budget every year. Every year a hefty budget deficit was financed borrowing money from the Central Bank; and usually at the end of each fiscal year we found out that we had overspent and we had to borrow again. The government is, therefore, heavily in debt. It owes a hefty sum to banks.

The money that the government has borrowed from banks has found its way to the people. If the people were to invest this money for productive purposes to build factories, farms, and workshops, this would revive the economy. Such investments would have created jobs and activities, but this has not happened. In our country, many people have money today. Perhaps many of them

wish to build factories. Many people have obtained agreements in principle to invest in various industries required by us. For building a factory, however, they need machinery and have to import it from abroad. After building the factory, they need the raw material which also has to be imported. As a result the money has remined idle in the people's hands.

Some of the people who have money are not good people. They are profiteers who are unhappy with their lot. They do not care about other people's difficulties and society. They bring their money to market in an unhealthy way. They resort to playing the role of middlemen, buying, and hoarding. They work as a network. A group of them will buy all the rice on the market and hoard it in stores. They control rice prices after that. They might decide to buy and hoard potatoes to make a huge profit later. They do this on the market. They are either counterrevolutionaries or, if we wish to be lenient, we can say they are at least profiteers; that is, they are besotted with the love of money, greed, and their bank accounts. They give it to the bank to work for them, but the bank cannot make the money work when there are no raw materials. If the bank could invest the money in productive sectors, it would make up for the lack of investment. However, our banks cannot invest it in the productive sector either because production requires other necessities of which the country is short. If the money were to be accumulated in banks, it would create problems for the banks too.

Money, that large excess amount of money which is in the people's hands, is one of the serious nuisances of distribution in the country, especially that part of it which is in the hands of people who are counterrevolutionary, indifferent, opportunistic, hoarders, and unjust. Unfortunately, the largest part is in their hands. Just those people who, during the difficult time of war when people's children were shedding blood on the fronts, would put people's blood in bottles and turn it into money. [sentence as heard]

If they want to, they put pressure on foreign exchange [rates] as well, so that foreign exchange does not rise for any reason. They play with foreign currency, to have an income; that very same money goes after foreign currency and they play with currency. They play with gold in that way, with foreign currency, with wheat, with meat, with whatever they can get their hands on. Therefore, the true shortage, the poor distribution is because the system of distribution which was established during the war because of limitations is unsuitable for the nature of society. It is a limited and unnatural thing imposed on the society with the existence of large amounts of money in the hands of unfit and impious people who exert pressure.

Those are things which can affect the market and unemployment; and a large number of people, because there are no jobs in production and because they are not employed, are forced to come into the market in order to make a living. [sentence as heard]. Many of them cannot be reproached; in other words, they enter [the market] because they are forced to do so. I have said this many times: A young person who fails the university entrance exam, who cannot study, who cannot find a place in a factory, or farm, and who at any rate needs some money for himself, even if he has no wife and children, must go and get a packet of cigarettes or he must go to the shop and buy a shirt and then go somewhere else and sell it; or he must take someone's ration coupon and sell it. He must live somehow. The large strata of unemployed people in our country, people who are imposed by force on the country because of the war, and even more after the war, and because of the stagnant state of production—and a large number of them have no choice other than that of being middlemen, changing from hand to hand, selling at high prices, so that they can maintain themselves on a minimal level. That is another of our problems.

We must move in any way, we must take a path which will resolve those problems from the root. Well, we have thought of ways; that is, we are working. And it is not just my work. It was also the work of the former government; the former government, this government, and any government that comes afterward has to continue this same course so that it becomes possible, in the period after the war, for us to transform the country into a healthy economic environment.

As I said, I see a very bright future. However, we must go through this stage. If we want to go through this stage well, serious cooperation and fellowship are necessary between executive officials, Majlis deputies, those in the judiciary, and the people themselves. In other words, if that entirety works together, they can go through these stages very well, put problems behind them, and reach another stage. Our goal is also clear. In the first instance, we must think about production in this 5-year plan. We must increase production, and there can be two kinds of production. One policy is that we put all our effort into primary and infrastructural production so that at the end of the plan we will reach the level of producing machinery and equipment and of producing primary goods and machine-goods and install our underground and above ground installations. Throughout that period, until we reach that point, we would say to our people, tighten your belts and put up with the shortages until we reach, for example, 10 million tonnes of steel, 10 million tonnes of petrochemical productions, a certain amount of minerals, of agricultural products, until we reach that day. That is one kind [of policy].

If a nation could do that and end the problems at the level even higher than it is now; that is, if we want to take that road, we would not have to buy many of the foreign things we buy now. We now spend about one-third, if not 40 per cent of our foreign currency on consumption goods; that is, for your wheat sugar, cooking oil, corn, medicine, things without which one cannot live. Well, it seems that with such pressure on people who have been

through a war, on people whose deprived strata has suffered such economic hardship, it is not possible to treat them in that way.

On that hypothesis, in other words, we would have to say that all those factories throughout the country should remain shut or half shut; that their workers should not there because for the worker to go there and to get a salary without working is not possible. As it is, because they have workers and the workers do very little, some of them are obliged to take their goods surreptitiously and illegally to the free market to sell so that they may just be able to pay their workers' salaries; these are the circumstances. Even that cannot be continued.

Therefore, we have found a middle way. In the first instance, we have put the emphasis on primary tasks in the plan, on fundamental things such as, just as I said, energy, agriculture, fisheries, livestock, and primary industries such as steel, petrochemicals, basic mining work. Those things are the core of the plan. When the plan's schedule is distributed, you will see how much emphasis has been given to important projects.

In the second instance, we must now try to use our existing productive resources at the highest level of capacity. In other words, we must do something so that the factories which now have machinery, manpower, a manager; which have electricity, water, infrastructure, and everything, and are only waiting to be given a sheet of paper [a permit] and then to give you, for example, a refrigerator or a radio or equipment for small workshops or a heater. We must give them the paper so that they can do that, or a clothes factory which has everything and which is waiting for fiber or wool or cotton so that it can produce their good. Of course, all that has added value; that is, they do not cause losses. They basically have a high level of added value given the state of the market.

We have chosen that second order as well. And on the basis of our assessment in the Council of Ministers, if, in addition to the foreign currency which we are now giving to industries—as it is we are giving about 4 billion dollars, 3 to 3 and ½ billion dollars to industries. However, what we are giving is just at that level of initial requirements which the organizations and the people need and those who produce immediate requirements, if we give an additional 2 and 1/2, 3 billion dollars extra per year, those factories will work. [sentence as heard] When they begin to work, a relative improvement will be brought about in the country. When their products are produced at a sufficient level, to the level of their capacity, and when the products come on the market; when we also make the method of distribution healthy and when it is not in its current state, that can improve people's lives in some areas. The condition is, of course, that it is well managed so that it can reach the consumer well. And we are drawing up plans and programs for that.

We should give priority to agriculture. We have made sure that this year the farmers would be supplied with pesticide, fertilizers, and agricultural facilities at an appropriate time so that our agricultural resources will not perish due to delay. These tasks have been stipulated in the plan.

Another task which we should engage in is to rid our people from the clutches of satanic forces. This is one of the fundamental and arduous tasks which can be fitted into the plans but in practice it most certainly needs the people's assistance. Let us assume for example we are producing. If this cash flow which is now in the hands of the people and those Satans were to find its way into the hoarding stores, and hence gain value through brokers and dealers before reaching people's hands, then this would create problems for the people. The problem of course already exists, but it would be exacerbated. Thus, we should also make plans in this connection. Fortunately, the penal legislation which the Expediency Discernment Council recently drew up, is now ready, and the preparations for it are being made by the Ministry of Commerce in collaboration with the guilds so that we may be able to use it at this stage.

I use potatoes as an example—there are some things in the country which we are indeed short of, and this is understandable, but there are things which in reality we do not have a shortage of, such as potatoes—our statistics from lands on which we have sown seeds, and our assessments have indicated that we have more potatoes than needed, and we have prevented its export so as to keep it in the country. Potato is a kind of subsistance for the people. You have noticed that in the past fortnight, a number of disreputable people and the very same Satans which I mentioned who have such abundant wealth, have started on the potatoes, since they are aware that the people need to purchase them for their winter. [passage omitted] We should combat this [hoarding], and this combat is only possible through the people's cooperation. [passage omitted] Now the Ministry of Commerce and the other relevant authorities are making methodical plans in respect of every commodity, and will announce individually prices for the farmer, the wholesaler, and the shopkeeper. They will go through every stage and then make announcements. Once the announcements have been made, the people should cooperate, and if they notice an expensive item they should abstain from buying. [crowd chants support].

Thank you very much. Let us do something first, before we can, God willing, express our thanks. We are still in the planning stage. Pursuing the line of production takes a long time. It is not as if we can go ahead the moment we make a decision. At the moment we have no foreign currency. We are just now in the process of getting approval for the plan. The Majlis should sanction it. Of course, if we were sure of their approval, we could go ahead and provide the credit. We are presently pursuing the task of activating the factories, and those projects and tasks. [passage omitted]

At present we have a dependent industry; we have to use foreign raw materials in order to manufacture, for example, refrigerators, in our country. But, when our

Mobarakeh Steel factory became productive, this industry will not dependent as it is an industry that emanated from within our own country. Now, for example our cotton mill, the fibers for which we import from Japan, is dependent, but when our petrochemical industry reaches fruition, then that very dependent industry becomes a ring in the chain of independent industry. Therefore, in this connection, we endeavor toward temporary provision.

Another issue which I should mention alongside this is that of demolishing this government bureaucracy which is a stumbling block in the path of the people's movement. In the past few days in the course of my work, reports which I received from the customs, export-import offices, and trade centers, were a cause of regret. I sent one of my close relatives to Tehran airport which is the country's pride in terms of arrival and departure. It is indeed a shame for the society and the Islamic revolution, when for example an aircraft carrying deprived [mostazafin] passengers to Syria, is delayed there for hours due to red tape, a village lady who for example is carrying her prayer mat with her is delayed there for hours being cross examined, or if she is carrying a box of chocolates they break them into pieces. Or when an aircraft arrives from abroad, they delay them in lines at the airport for hours under the pretext of checking their goods, all because of the wrong regulations which are in existence. My envoy was there from midnight until the next afternoon observing both domestic and foreign flights arriving and departing, and said that the situation there is only making the people counterrevolutionary—all in the name of checking, and they achieve nothing. This situation exists more or less at the other customs, too. There are regulations, of course. These are the regulations which we have made, and an employee becomes confused in such regulations. Regarding exports, an individual who wishes to export goods, finds that half his goods have perished, by the time he gets them to the ship in order for them to cross the water.

The same delays exist in respect of imports. For example someone who wishes to buy, let us say sugar, with his own foreign currency, despairs in the process of importing it. Of course, there are some crooks among them and so such incidents occur. One of our tasks is to redress a large part of such troublesome regulations and the disturbances which are created at our borders when taking out our export resources, and the return of their value in the form of goods needed by the people.

Another point which I should mention is that of providing opportunities, and this is something for which I require your attention: creating opportunities for this private cash to be used in production, instead of brokering and hoarding. It should be drawn into the field of production. [passage omitted]

If the path is followed in accordance with our plans, and if the people cooperate, as well as the Majlis and the Cabinet, both of which are coordinating this plan together, then you can be hopeful that, God willing, in the next 2 to 3 years, your country will be among those countries which enjoy a healthy economy based on a healthy, independent, nonaligned, and self-reliant diplomacy, as an Islamic country which stands prominent in the international scene. [crowd chants support] [passage omitted]

Pakistan

Bhutto Urges Political Settlement With Kabul

BK0210042489 London BBC World Service in English 0215 GMT 2 Oct 89

[From the "Newsreel" program]

[Text] The prime minister of Pakistan, Ms Benazir Bhutto, has urged the mujahidin guerrillas of Afghanistan to reach a political settlement with the government in Kabul. In a BBC interview, Ms Bhutto said more than military measures were needed. There must also be political move. Ms Bhutto is currently on a visit to Bangladesh.

More on Bhutto's BBC Interview

BK0210131889 London BBC World Service in English 1200 GMT 2 Oct 89

[From the "Newsreel" program]

[Text] The prime minister of Pakistan has appealed to the Afghan guerrilla groups to try to reach a political settlement in the country. In a BBC television interview to be broadcast tonight, Ms Bhutto says the mujahidin must sink their differences and stop looking for a military victory. Our foreign affairs correspondent, Jack Thompson, has listened to the interview.

[Thompson] Given that the mujahidin have derived a lot of their support from Pakistan, Benazir Bhutto's stern warning must come as something of a surprise, both to the rebels' own leaders and those factions in the Pakistani military who one way or another have been heavily involved in the Afghan war. Ms Bhutto does not actually tell the mujahidin to go and talk to Dr Najibullah in Kabul, but she makes it quite clear that in her view they will never inflict a military defeat on the Afghan Armed Forces. The Alternative Interim Government or AIG, as the mujahidin leaders call themselves, still insist that they will fight for the overthrow of the Kabul government. In Benazir Bhutto's view that's simply not a practical proposition.

[Begin Bhutto recording] We have been pushing the idea of a speedy political settlement. Our major difficulty is that none of the Afghan parties involved, the AIG, are prepared to negotiate with the hardliners in the regime, and it is actually the major hurdle. [end recording]

On top of which Ms Bhutto was clearly becoming exasperated with the inability of the seven major factions in the mujahidin to put aside their own differences. She

says she had told the individual leaders they must broaden the base of their alternative government and speak with one voice. In the interview Ms Bhutto (?is pressed) on the role of the Pakistan military intelligence, the ISI [Inter Services Intelligence], in the Afghan war. She does not actually deny that they have been involved in the fighting, particularly for the city Jalalabad, but she does admit that they have given the mujahidin moral assistance. She says the ISI now carries out the policy of her government, which is to avoid having any kind of Pakistani presence in Afghanistan.

Assesses Afghanistan Situation

PM0310002189

[Editorial Report] London BBC Television Network in English at 2030 GMT on 2 October in the weekly "Panorama" program carries a 45-minute report by correspondent John Simpson entitled "Afghanistan: The Squandered Victory."

For the past 7 months, "Panorama" camera teams accompanied mujahidin guerrillas as they fought in Kabul, Jalalabad, and Qandahar. Footage shows various mujahidin groups and the Afghan Army in attacks and counterattacks.

Reporter John Simpson says: "Almost every mujahidin group fighting here is now reporting as many casualties in the battle for Jalalabad as it's suffered in 10 years of fighting the Russians. It wasn't just the mujahidin's failure. Pakistan's military intelligence and the Americans have persuaded the mujahidin to give up the old successful tactics undermining the enemy's will to resist rather than fighting pitched battles. It was at Jalalabad that the confidence of the mujahidin's backers began to ebb away. Pakistan, anyway, had a new prime minister, and Benazir Bhutto had little enthusiasm for the hard-line fundamentalists among the mujahidin who had been favored by the military regime she took over from, and she sacked the head of Pakistan's military intelligence, who had virtually directed the battle for Jalalabad."

Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto tells Simpson: "To some extent it was partially our own misassessment of the intelligence situation because we should have had our own reports, but we chose to go on what was said to us by the mujahidin. All the voices were constantly sounded that these are optimistic."

The program continues with Simpson pointing out that because of this lack of coordination between mujahidin, the Afghan Army is holding its own against the guerrilla armies. Simpson says Najibullah, who is shown addressing his supporters, is now "playing the role of his life: a man of peace and a good Muslim. The invited audience is composed of mujahidin who've defected to him. He's confident enough now to ignore demands that he should stand down as the price of some grand political settlement. With the Russians gone, he says, he's the true patriotic Afghan. It's a hammy act, but he puts it over well."

Speaking in vernacular with superimposed English translation, Najibullah tells Simpson: "Six months since the Soviets have withdrawn have shown the war cannot solve Afghanistan's problems. War will only cause more deaths and more destruction. It would be better to start peaceful negotiations as soon as possible and solve the problem by political means. My resignation will not solve the problem. What we need are negotiations. There can be no peace without taking into account this government and the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan."

The team goes to Qandahar and the program shows the pain and suffering for civilians as well as the disunity of the mujahidin groups fighting there. Benazir Bhutto again speaks to Simpson:

"We've been urging them that, for God's sake, if you're fighting for a cause, you can only get it if you put aside individual differences. For instance, we were told that, well, we may be one government, but we are nine different armies or eight different armies. So I said: Well, I mean, unless you become one army, you're not going to be able to fight in a coordinated manner. And it's incumbent upon them to listen to the, uh, friends and well- wishers, not just Pakistan, but others, too, who have urged them to broaden the base of their government and also to speak with one voice." Simpson asks her: "And if they don't do those things? If they just continue as they are at the moment, what will happen then?" Bhutto answers: "I think that everyone knows that the way to success is to do these things, and if they want success, they'll do it, and if they don't do it, well then, one can draw one's conclusions."

Simpson concludes that the war has degenerated into a random series of uncoordinated attacks and that the only result is lost lives.

Yaqub Khan Meets With Shevardnadze in New York

BK0210052789 Islamabad Overseas Service in Urdu 0500 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and his Soviet counterpart, Shevardnadze, discussed regional and international issues, including Afghanistan, in New York last night. The meeting lasted for about 2 hours. Later, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan expressed satisfaction at the meeting.

Understanding Reached on Draft Afghan Resolution

BK0210105989 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1000 GMT 2 Oct 89

[Text] Pakistan and the Soviet Union have reached an understanding on a draft resolution for action by the UN General Assembly toward a political solution to the Afghanistan issue. This understanding was reached after a 2-hour discussion between the foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, and his Soviet counterpart, Shevardnadze, in the Soviet mission at the United Nations last night.

Talking to APP after the discussions, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said both sides were successful in coordinating their stand on a number of issues, which augurs well for the future. He said he was satisfied with his talks with Shevardnadze, and added that both sides will officially inform the UN General Assembly about their individual stands on the draft. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said: We are fully aware of the importance of a comprehensive, peaceful settlement to this issue, which is the right path in comparison with a military solution to the issue, and we are of the opinion that a military settlement will not produce the results that can be achieved by a political settlement.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said he informed his Soviet counterpart about Pakistan's relations with its neighboring countries and about the healthy atmosphere that has recently been established in South Asia.

UN Envoy Rejects Charges of Role in Afghan War

BK2909155289 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 29 Sep 89

[Text] At the United Nations, Pakistan has categorically rejected the Kabul regime's allegations about Islamabad's involvement in the Afghan war, describing them as totally false, fabricated, and devoid of truth. Exercising the right to reply to the Kabul regime foreign minister's allegations at the United Nations General Assembly last night, the Pakistani delegate, Shaukat Umar, said the Kabul regime, which does not enjoy the confidence of the people, only wants to malign Pakistan and to distract world's attention from its total failure to secure the confidence of its own people.

The Pakistani delegate pointed out that the UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan could not find any proof of the supply of arms and ammunition into Afghanistan or about any training camp or the violation of Afghan territory by Pakistan. He said Pakistan is fully aware of its obligations under the Geneva accords, which it will continue to observe with full sincerity.

He added that, on the other hand, Pakistani territorial integrity has been repeatedly violated since the signing of the Geneva accords in April last year. He referred to 175 air and 300 ground violations, and 265 incidents of Scud missile attacks and subversive activities which resulted in 238 deaths and 500 injuries.

Concerning the allegation about the refugees being prevented from returning to their homeland, Shaukat Umar said it does not have an aura of truth to it. In fact, he added, there has been an increase in the influx of refugees into Pakistan during past few months, which has been confirmed by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

The Pakistani delegate said that peace and stability in Afghanistan can be restored only when power is transferred from the current regime to a broad-based government acceptable to the Afghan people. He said the root cause of the continuing conflict in Afghanistan is the failure of the Kabul regime to accept the realities of the situation.

Afghan MiG-21 Forced To Land in Peshawar

BK2909113089 Hong Kong AFP in English 1119 GMT 29 Sep 89

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, Sept 29 (AFP)—An Afghan military aircraft landed at Peshawar Airport on Friday [29 September] and its pilot was detained, airport sources in this city on the border with Afghanistan said.

The plane, identified as a Soviet-supplied MIG-21, had twice entered Pakistani air space around 11:00 a.m. (0600 GMT), the sources said.

There was no immediate official comment on the incident, but sources in Peshawar said the plane may have been on a mission to bomb mujahidin positions in Afghanistan's troubled eastern regions.

It first crossed into Pakistan and circled over areas inhabited mostly by Afghan refugees, but was chased away by A-5 fighters from the Pakistan Air Force, the sources said.

When the jet returned again some time later, two Pakistani F-16 fighter interceptors scrambled and forced the plane to land at Peshawar Air Base, they said.

The plane's pilot was taken into custody for interrogation.

Pilot Surrenders to Mujahidin

BK2909122489 Hong Kong AFP in English 1215 GMT 29 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Peshawar, Pakistan, Sept 29 (AFP)—An Afghan military aircraft landed at the airport here Friday [29 September] and its pilot was arrested, airport sources in this city on the Afghanistan border said.

The plane, identified as a Soviet-supplied MIG-21, had twice entered Pakistan air space around 11:00 a.m. (0600 GMT) and penetrated deep into the bordering regions, the sources said.

There were no official comments on the incident, but sources in Peshawar said the plane could be on a mission to bomb mujahidin positions in Afghanistan's troubled eastern regions.

The resistance-run news agency MIDIA [Media Information Department of Islamic Afghanistan] later confirmed the landing and said the plane was piloted by Captain Jalaluddin, who had flown from Bagram air base near Kabul.

MIDIA said he was assigned to bomb mujahidin fighters who had blocked the Kabul-Jalalabad road for the past four days.

"The pilot has surrendered himself to the resistance interim government" based here, MIDIA added. [passage omitted]

Pilot Requests Political Asylum

BK2909141589 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 29 Sep 89

[Text] An Afghan MiG-21 aircraft which was on a bombing mission in Jalalabad has defected [as heard] and fled into Pakistan. The aircraft landed at Pakistan Air Force base in Peshawar and its pilot, Major Jalaluddin, has requested political asylum.

Sri Lanka

Premadasa Meets Opposition Leaders on Cease-Fire

BK2909145989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 29 Sep 89

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] militants attacked an EPRLF [Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front] camp in Mullaittivu in Vavuniya sector yesterday. It was a surprise attack and the LTTE used rockets and machineguns. Five EPRLF personnel were killed and six wounded. LTTE casualties are still being ascertained. Commenting on the surprise attack by the LTTE, an official spokesman said that this inadvertently raised some doubts about the LTTE's commitment to the democratic process and the path of peace and served as a reminder of its oft-stated intention to dominate other Tamil groups.

Meanwhile, the Sri Lankan president, Mr Premadasa, was meeting the leaders of five opposition parties led by the Sri Lanka Freedom Party leader, Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike, in Colombo this evening to decide on the possible extension of the present cease-fire against the Sinhalese extremist groups including the JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna—People's Liberation Front]. The 72-hour cease-fire which started on Wednesday [27 September] last is due to expire at 0600 tomorrow morning.

A government communique said 83 subversives have given themselves up at various centers set up by the government. The government has assured full protection to those who surrender.

Extends Cease-Fire 3 Days

BK3009031889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Sep 89

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the cease-fire against the Sinhalese extremist groups, including the JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna, or People's Liberation Front], has been extended by another 3 days. This decision was taken at a meeting in Colombo last night by the Sri Lankan president, Mr Premadasa, when he met leaders of the five opposition parties led by the Sri Lankan Freedom Party leader, Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike. The cease-fire in effect since Wednesday [27 September] was due to expire at 0600 [0030] this morning. Mr Premadasa also reviewed the security situation in the country with the leaders of the five political parties and the cease-fire monitoring committees.

Meanwhile, the ruling EPRLF [Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front] in the Northeastern Province of Sri Lanka hopes to reach an understanding with the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] soon even as five of its cadres were killed by the militant group on Thursday night. The LTTE men attacked the EPRLF camp in Mullaitivu in the Vavuniya sector resulting in the death. The EPRLF secretary general, Mr K. Padmanabha, described the incident as a serious violation of cease-fire. He, however, said that despite this incident, his party will welcome the LTTE for consultations.

AIR [All India Radio] correspondent Akshay Raut, after visiting the sensitive areas of Vavuniya and Jaffna, reports that life is normal in these areas, which was not the case a few months ago. Commenting on the LTTE attack, an official spokesman in New Delhi said this raises some doubts about the LTTE's commitment to the democratic process.

DJV, JVP Responses Awaited

BK3009112089 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 30 Sep 89

[Text] President Premadasa yesterday reviewed the security situation with the leader of the opposition, Sirimavo R.D. Bandaranaike, and representatives of the other political parties in the Parliament. He also heard the views of the monitoring committee on the incidents of violence and sabotage that had taken place since 0600 [0030 GMT] on Wednesday, the 27th.

It was decided that a suspension of counter-subversive measures of operations be extended till 0600 on Tuesday, the 3d of next month, to enable the DJV [Deshapremaya Janatha Viyaparaya—military wing of the JVP] and the JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna—People's Liberation Front] to make a positive response.

Cease-Fire Ends; No JVP Response

BK0310055089 Hong Kong AFP in English 0501 GMT 3 Oct 89

[Text] Colombo, Oct 3 (AFP)—A government-declared ceasefire lapsed Tuesday as there was no response from Sinhalese militants to the peace offer, officials here said.

The unilateral truce was declared for three days from September 27, and later extended by three more days, to allow the Janatha Vimukti Peramuna (JVP, or People's Liberation Front) to give up violence and agree to talks.

Military officials said rebels kept up attacks on security personnel, their families and political rivals during the truce period, leaving at least 40 people dead.

Government property, including some 42 vehicles, 23 offices, mostly in remote areas, and 42 sub-post offices were torched by suspected rebels during the six-day period in which security forces halted operations against the JVP. Troops were expected to resume their operations, which include cordon-and-search missions, beginning Tuesday.

The state-owned DINAMINA daily said that authorities would consider a rebel response even after the truce lapses.

Government figures show that over 789 suspected rebels have surrendered during the truce period.

The latest truce was declared as part of a peace initiative of the all party conference, called by President Ranasinghe Premadasa to hammer out a solution to the country's political strife. The government also declared ceasefires with the JVP in April and October last year, but both ended with marginal results.

The JVP, a Sinhalese radical group, is leading a violent campaign to overthrow the government and has been accused of killing over 4,500 people in the past two years. In 1971, the JVP led a bloody insurrection that was put down with the loss of at least 10,000 lives.

Communique on Surrender

BK0310102789 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0916 GMT 3 Oct 89

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Oct 3 (LANKAPUVATH)—One thousand one hundred and twenty subversives gave themselves up to AGA's [Assistant Government Agents] offices, police stations and security forces detachments throughout the island, states a government communique. The communique further states that these subversives gave themselves up during the six-day unilateral cease-fire under which the security forces suspended offensive military action against the JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna—People's Liberation Front] and DJV [Deshapremaya Janatha Viyaparaya—military wing of the JVP]. The period of the cease-fire was from 0600 hours (local time) on the 27th September to 0600 hours on the 2nd October, 1989.

The communique also states that subversives were on the rampage even on the 2nd of October, 1989 when they killed 21 civilians, burnt 17 sub-post offices, 3 AGA's offices, 6 SLTB [Sri Lanka Transport Board] buses, 21 grama sevaka [village-level government] offices, and 6 other government buildings. At Gampaha, the father, brother, brother-in-law and a friend of a police constable were shot dead and their bodies [words indistinct]. P.G. Seelawathie of Nakkala in Monaragala, president of the UNP [United National Party] women's association and a mother of a soldier was shot and killed by subversives. Among the others killed were a doctor in Hakmana and a twenty-five-year old woman, Tulia Menika, suspected of speaking at [as received] the JVP. Forty [railway] sleepers were burnt and damaged along the Mahawa-Kurunegala rail track, the government communique states.

JVP Invited To Attend All-Party Conference Talks

BK3009112889 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 30 Sep 89

[Text] The All-Party Conference [APC] has invited the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna [JVP—People's Liberation Front] to participate or appoint a representative to attend the APC on their behalf. A communique issued by the APC states that while recognizing the departure of the JVP from the mainstream of the democratic political activity—it was due to the proscription of the JVP on the 30th of July 1983—it is convinced of the urgency to restore peace and normalcy. It also welcomes the deproscription of the JVP on the 10th of May 1988 and the decision of the government to grant all representatives attending the conference full protection and security, and calling upon all groups who are outside the mainstream of the democratic process to eschew violence and achieve their goals through democratic means. It invites the JVP to join the ongoing APC.

UNP Recommends Conditional Lifting of Emergency

BK0110125689 Hong Kong AFP in English 1240 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Text] Colombo, Oct 1 (AFP)—Sri Lanka's ruling United National Party (UNP) asked the government Sunday [1 October] to conditionally lift a state of emergency and grant an amnesty to rebels to restore peace in the strife-torn island.

The UNP's policy making working committee, headed by President Ranasinghe Premadasa, asked all political parties to desist from violence and sabotage, disband illegal paramilitary forces and surrender unlicensed arms held by them on a specified date.

On the fulfillment of these demands, the working committee had recommended that the government immediately lift the emergency, the tough Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA), give protection to Sinhalese militants and grant a general amnesty and release all those held under emergency laws and the PTA.

Announces 'Peace Package'

BK0110151889 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1335 GMT 1 Oct 89

[Text] Colombo, Oct 1 (LANKAPUVATH)—The ruling United National Party's [UNP] working committee today announced a peace package and offered to recommend to the government the lifting of the emergency, suspension of the Prevention of Terrorism Act [PTA],

ensure protection of the JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna—People's Liberation Front], grant an amnesty to all persons punished, release all those detained, stop action against all persons wanted under the emergency regulations and redress any legitimate grievances on condition that all political parties, both in Parliament and outside, including the JVP, pledge their commitment to democracy, desist from violence and sabotage with immediate effect, surrender all firearms and disband illegal para-military forces.

The working committee of the UNP recommended that since any question arising whether the Constitution should be amended is a matter on which the mandate of the people will have to be obtained and not being adverse to any constitutional change, that the government if it considers necessary dissolve Parliament, fix a date for a general election and in order to initiate a process of national reconciliation, take steps to form a caretaker government providing representation to all political parties.

The following is a statement issued by the working committee of the United National Party. This statement was adopted unanimously at a special meeting it held today. Statement:

1. The working committee of the United National Party whilst

"declaring its deep appreciation of the decision of all political parties to participate in the all party conference in a collective search for the means to restore peace and normalcy;

"commending these parties, who is spite of their own political identity and philosophy, have come together in a common forum to find solutions to the critical problem of violence facing the country;

"welcoming the joint appeal made by the all party conference to the JVP to rejoin the democratic process; and,

"endorsing the consensus that has emerged at the all party conference that peace is an essential pre-requisite for any form of progress and development:

"calls upon all political parties both in parliament and outside including the JVP to:
a. Pledge their commitment to peace and democracy,
b. Desist from violence and sabotage with immediate effect,
c. Surrender all unlicensed firearms in their possession before a specified date, and
d. Disband any illegal para-military forces.

2. On the fulfillment of the above four conditions, the working committee recommends to the government to take the following steps immediately:
a. Lift the emergency,
b. Suspend the prevention of terrorism act,
c. Grant an amnesty to all persons punished, release all persons detained, and stop action against all persons wanted under the emergency regulations or the P.T.A.
d. Redress any legitimate grievances.

3. The working committee noted that certain parties, who contested the last elections held in 1988 and 1989, canvassed for an alternative system of government. However, the majority of voters reaffirmed the structure of government in the present Constitution. Accordingly, any question now arising whether the Constitution should be amended is a matter upon which the mandate of the people will have to be obtained afresh. The UNP is not adverse to any constitutional change, if in the opinion of the people such change will bring peace, discipline and prosperity. Therefore, the working committee recommends that the government, if it considers necessary:
a. Dissolve Parliament on the passing of a resolution in Parliament under Article 70 (1) (a) requesting dissolution and thereupon, fix a date for holding of a general election; and
b. In order to initiate a process of national reconciliation, take steps to form a caretaker government providing representation to all recognised political parties.

Delhi Reports LTTE Actions Against Indian Troops

BK3009091989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 30 Sep 89

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the majority of the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] cadres have fled beyond the borders of the Northeastern Province due to intensive operations by the IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] till the recent cessation of offensive action. The general officer commanding of the force, Lieutenant General A.S. Kalkat, told newsmen that the LTTE has of late been trying to ambush IPKF parties from within the jungles of Sinhala areas. He said the LTTE, which is on the run, has been trying to come to limelight through such murderous acts.

AIR [All India Radio] correspondent (Akhsay Rai), after visiting all the four sectors, reports that taking advantage of the current cease-fire, the LTTE has indulged in several acts of violence against political opponents and civilians in the last 10 days. They also made an unsuccessful attack on an IPKF party in which their weapons were recovered.

LTTE Prepared for New Elections in Northeast

BK0110160889 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1434 GMT 1 Oct 89

["[illegible]NA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Oct 1 (LANKAPUVATH)—The political committee of the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] in a statement issued this evening said it is prepared to face a fresh election to the Northeast Provincial Council, if the council is dissolved. But, first the Indian Army must leave Sri Lanka.

Responding to Northeast Provincial Council Chief Minister Varatharaj Perumal's challenge, the LTTE stated it will enter the political mainstream only when the Indian Army is completely withdrawn from the homeland of the Tamils and Muslims. It said the LTTE had the solid support of the political masses.

The LTTE said: Our political strength derives from the power of the people. We will prove very soon that the Tamil tigers are the authentic representatives of the Tamil people. But, for the LTTE to return to democratic politics, appropriate conditions should prevail. First and foremost, Indian troops must be completely withdrawn, removing the conditions of alien occupation.

The LTTE said the Northeast Provincial Council which was constituted undemocratically, fraudulently, should be dissolved. A congenial atmosphere should be created so that our people can exercise their democratic rights in free and fair elections.

Severely criticising Chief Minister Perumal's provincial administration, the LTTE political committee observed that the administration has become defunctional and defunct since it lacked popular support. The Tamil and Muslim people have refused to accept this puppet regime created by India and imposed on them without holding elections in the north and it stage managed the election in the east. The LTTE statement said the Northeast Provincial Council has no legitimacy and has lost its credibility.